EXHIBIT 7

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

IN RE:)
INTEL CORP. MICROPROCESSOR ANTITRUST LITIGATION) MDL Docket No. 05-1717-JJF) (Re: D.I. 300)
PHIL PAUL, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,	
Plaintiffs,)
v.) C.A. No. 05-485-JJF
INTEL CORPORATION,)
Defendant.)

DM 5

SPECIAL MASTER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THRESHOLD ISSUE RAISED BY CLASS PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO COMPEL AND OTHER ISSUES

RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING JURISDICTION AND PROTECTIVE ORDER

INTRODUCTION

The captioned cases are antitrust actions brought against Intel Corporation ("Intel") as the manufacturer of microprocessors that run the Microsoft Windows and Linux families of operating systems (the "x86 Microprocessor Market"), a market in which Intel is alleged to hold worldwide market share measured as 80% of the market in units and 90% of the market in revenues.

The 05-485 action is brought on behalf of a class of consumers who allege economic injury resulting from Intel's alleged anticompetitive and monopolistic practices. The 05-485 action has been consolidated with over 70 other consumer-related actions by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation and assigned to this Court, where it is docketed as MDL Docket No. 05-1717 (collectively, the "Class Litigation"). As used herein, the term "Class Plaintiffs" refers to the plaintiffs in the Class Litigation.

The matter *sub judice* comes before me, as Special Master,¹ on the motion of the Class Plaintiffs (D.I. 422 in Case No. 05-1717)² to compel Fry's Electronics, Inc. ("Fry's") to produce certain transactional data pursuant to a documents-only subpoena. Fry's initially questions the jurisdiction of this Court, the transferee court in a multidistrict litigation ("MDL"), to enforce a documents-only subpoena issued from a transferring court in the MDL and directed to a non-party litigant. Further, Fry's seeks to amend the existing Protective Order entered in the Class Litigation (D.I. 277)³ to address its concerns regarding any production of its transactional data. Fry's other objections can be summarized as follows: (i) the Class Plaintiffs have failed to adequately identify the transactional data sought; (ii) the meet and confer process was

¹ The Order appointing Special Master is docketed at D.I. 60 in the 05-1717 MDL docket, and at D.I. 21 in Case No. 05-485.

² Unless otherwise specified, the docket items cited hereinafter refer only to the docket in Case No. 05-1717.

insufficient; (iii) the data sought from Fry's is available from other sources; (iv) the Class Plaintiffs have failed to establish their need for the financial data; (v) to the extent Fry's is required to produce transactional data, the Protective Order should be amended to protect such information; and (vi) the Class Plaintiffs should pay Fry's reasonable expenses in producing documents. Since the Class Plaintiffs and Fry's are continuing to meet and confer on various of these enumerated objections, the Special Master defers addressing any of them at this time.

For the reasons discussed further herein, the Special Master concludes that 28 U. S. C. § 1407 provides this Court, as the transferee court, with the power to enforce a documents-only subpoena issued from a transferring court in MDL and directed to a non-party. Further, while the Special Master acknowledges that the Protective Order allows any "Party" or "Third Party" (as such terms are defined in the Protective Order), for good cause shown, to move for modification of the Protective Order (D.I. 277, ¶ 28), the Special Master concludes that Fry's has failed to establish good cause in this matter to modify the Protective Order.

BACKGROUND

On June 23, 2006, the Class Plaintiffs served Fry's with a documents-only subpoena issued from the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (the "Subpoena"). While the Subpoena seeks the production of documents in addition to data, the motion to compel filed by the Class Plaintiffs on March 29, 2007 (the "Motion to Compel"), is limited to the production of certain transactional data.⁴ D.I. 422 at 1, fn 1.

On April 17, 2007, Fry's filed its objection to the Motion to Compel (the "Objection"). D.I. 323, Case No. 05-485.

³ The Protective Order was also entered in Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. v. Intel Corporation, Case No. 05-441.

⁴ The Class Plaintiffs contend that the data needs to be produced "soon" because of its relevance to the upcoming class certification motion. D.I. 422 at 1, footnote 1, which must be filed on September 7, 2007. D.I. 410.

On April 23, 2007, the Class Plaintiffs filed their reply in support of the Motion to Compel (the "Reply"). D.I. 440. In the Reply, the Class Plaintiffs make clear that they seek production of Fry's transactional data as such data exists in the ordinary course of business. D.I. 440 at 1. Further, Class Plaintiffs acquiesce to receiving only a "statistically relevant sample" of such transactional data for class certification purposes at this time, but maintain that a full production of data will be required for the merits of their action. D.I. 440 at 3.

On May 1, 2007, the Special Master conducted a hearing on the Motion to Compel (the "May 1 Hearing"), at which counsel for the Class Plaintiffs and counsel for Fry's argued their respective positions. At the outset of the hearing, the Special Master addressed Fry's threshold issue concerning this Court's authority to entertain the Motion to Compel and expressed his intention to issue a report and recommendation concerning the same. Transcript of May 1 Hearing (hereinafter referred to as Tr.) at 7:1-9:14.5 Thereafter, the Special Master reviewed the process behind the formulation and entry of the Protective Order and Fry's participation in such process to establish a backdrop for the parties' respective arguments. Tr. at 9:22-15:19.

At the conclusion of the May 1 Hearing, it became apparent that the record was not fully developed as to whether the transactional data, as kept in the ordinary course of Fry's business, would be in a form useable and useful to the Class Plaintiffs, and, thus, necessary. Tr. at 93:18 – 95:20. To enable the Class Plaintiffs an opportunity to complete the record on this issue, the parties stipulated to an informal review process which is expected to continue as necessary through May 23, 2007. D.I. 459.

⁵ Since Fry's has requested that a portion of the transcript be docketed under seal, the transcript has not yet been

DISCUSSION

A. <u>Jurisdiction</u>

The federal statute governing multidistrict litigation or MDL, 28 U.S.C. § 1407 ("Section 1407"), provides in pertinent part that: "[t]he judge or judges to whom [MDL] actions are assigned ... may exercise the powers of a district judge *in any district* for the purpose of conducting pretrial *depositions* in such coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings." In re Automotive Refinishing Paint Antitrust Litigation, 229 F.R.D. 482, 485 (E. D. Pa. 2005) (citing 28 U. S. C. § 1407(b)) (emphasis added). The purpose of Section 1407 is to create an expedited procedure for the handling of multidistrict litigation, In re Factor VIII, 174 F.R.D. 412, 415 (N. D. Ill. 1997) ("Factor VIII"), and to provide for a unified concept of pretrial proceedings, United States ex rel. Pogue v. Diabetes Treatment Centers of America, Inc., 238 F. Supp. 2d 270, 274 (D.D.C. 2002) ("Pogue") (citing In re San Juan Dupont Plaza Hotel Fire Litigation, 117 F.R.D. 30, 32 (D.P.R. 1987)).

The overwhelming majority of courts that have considered the issue of whether Section 1407(b) authorizes a transferee judge the power to act as any judge of any district for pretrial depositions as well as subpoenas *duces tecum*, have found that it does. See, e.g., United States ex rel. Pogue v. Diabetes Treatment Centers of America, Inc., 444 F.3d 462, 469 n. 4 (6th Cir. 2006) ("Pogue Circuit Decision") ("[T]he rationale underlying the MDL statute of 'just and efficient' resolution of pretrial proceedings requires the conclusion that Section 1407(b)'s grant of authority applies to both deposition subpoenas and documents-only subpoenas."); Factor VIII, 174 F.R.D. at 415 ("It would make no sense for [Section] 1407(b) to confer authority to conduct depositions but not the authority to require productions of documents at a deposition."); Pogue,

238 F. Supp. 2d at 274; In re San Juan Dupont Plaza Hotel Fire Litigation, 117 F.R.D. 30, 32 (D.P.R. 1987) ("San Juan Hotel Fire"); In re Sunrise Sec. Litig., 130 F.R.D. 560, 586 (E.D. Pa. 1989); but see VISX, Inc. v. Nidek Co., 208 F.R.D. 615, 616 (N. D. Cal. 2002) ("VISX") (narrowly reading Section 1407(b) to limit it to strictly deposition disputes and finding that Fed. R. Civ. P. 45 trumps Section 1407 where a documents-only subpoena is at issue).

Similar to the circumstances in the instant matter, in Factor VIII, the plaintiffs moved for an order compelling a non-party, The Marketing Research Bureau, Inc. ("MRB"), to comply with a subpoena duces tecum. Factor VIII, 174 F.R.D. at 413. The subpoena duces tecum issued out of the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut; the MDL transferee court was the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Id. MRB refused to comply and the plaintiffs moved the MDL transferee court for an order compelling compliance. <u>Id.</u> MRB challenged the jurisdiction of the MDL transferee court. Id. In reliance upon prior authorities, including San Juan Hotel Fire, 117 F.R.D. 30, In re Corrugated Container Antitrust Litigation, 620 F.2d 1086 (5th Cir. 1980), In re Corrugated Container Antitrust Litigation, 644 F.2d 70 (2d Cir. 1981), In re Sunrise Sec. Litig., 130 F.R.D. 560 (E.D. Pa. 1989), the Factor VIII MDL transferee court held that Section 1407(b) gave it authority to rule, as transferee judge, on the motion to compel compliance with the subpoena issued in the District of Connecticut. Factor VIII, 174 F.R.D. at 415. "This conclusion is not only consistent with the cases, it is consistent with the purpose of § 1407, which is to create an expedited procedure for the handling of multidistrict litigation. Requiring a transferee judge to travel from district to district to hold hearings and rule on discovery matters would hardly be an efficient way of managing consolidated pretrial proceedings." Id.6

⁶ One court has taken a quixotic approach by construing the term "in any district" of Section 1407(b) to require the judge to "journey to another district to hear a discovery dispute in that district." In re Uranium Antitrust Litigation,

In <u>Pogue</u>, relator moved to enforce subpoenas *duces tecum* issued to non-parties that owned the defendants. <u>Pogue</u>, 238 F. Supp. 2d at 272. The subpoenas *duces tecum* issued out of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee; the MDL transferee court was the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. <u>Id.</u> The non-parties subject to the subpoenas moved to quash the subpoenas, arguing that the MDL transferee court had no jurisdiction to enforce a subpoena *duces tecum* issued by another district court. <u>Id.</u> at 272-73. While noting that "it is not entirely a settled question whether an MDL court may enforce a subpoena *duces tecum* issued by another court" under the grant of Section 1407, the <u>Pogue</u> court held that the "weight of authority and effectuation of the purposes of multi-district litigation support a finding of jurisdiction." <u>Id.</u> at 273. The "weight of authority" cited by <u>Pogue</u> includes the following decisions, <u>San Juan Hotel Fire</u>, 117 F.R.D. 30, <u>In re Corrugated Container Antitrust Litigation</u>, 662 F.2d 875 (D.C. Cir. 1981), <u>In re Corrugated Container Antitrust Litigation</u>, 644 F.2d 70 (2d Cir. 1981), <u>In re Sunrise Sec. Litig.</u>, 130 F.R.D. 560 (E.D. Pa. 1989), and <u>Factor VIII</u>, 174 F.R.D. 412. The <u>Pogue</u> court reasoned as follows:

The language of § 1407 allows a judge to act as another district judge 'for the purpose of conduction pretrial depositions:' A subpoena duces tecum is an order to appear at a specific place on a specific date with certain documents. A deposition is also an order to appear. A subpoena duces tecum can be issued as an incident to a deposition.... The laws and rules governing federal courts strive to minimize elaborate formality and needless procedure. To effectuate those goals and to avoid placing on parties and nonparties from whom documents are sought the burden of holding a pro forma deposition in order to come under the aegis of § 1407, the Court holds that the power to act as the judge of any district for pretrial depositions includes as an incident the power to enforce subpoenas duces tecum.

Pogue, 238 F. Supp. 2d at 274-75 (citations omitted).

⁵⁰³ F. Supp. 33, 35 (N.D. III. 1980). A subsequent decision from the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois declined to follow the <u>Uranium Antitrust</u> interpretation of Section 1407 as compelling the MDL transferee judge to travel to the issuing jurisdiction to resolve disputes. <u>See Factor VIII</u>, 174 F.R.D. at 415.

Similarly, the court in <u>San Juan Hotel Fire</u> considered the interplay between a motion to enforce a subpoena duces tecum issued to a non-party and Section 1407. <u>San Juan Hotel Fire</u>, 117 F.R.D. 30. The court began its analysis with the purpose and policy of multidistrict litigation, which is to "provide for a unified concept of pretrial proceedings." <u>Id.</u> at 32. The court concluded that to enable the MDL judge fully to exercise the power to act as a judge of any district for pretrial depositions, "it is necessary to append to the transferee judge enforcement powers in relation to subpoenas issued in the deposition district, including depositions and subpoenas addressed to nonparties." <u>Id.</u> (citation omitted).

Likewise, in <u>In re Sunrise Sec. Litig.</u>, 130 F.R.D. 560 (E.D. Pa. 1989), the court held that it had the power to enforce subpoenas *duces tecum* issued from another district court incident to depositions. The court concluded that under Section 1407, "a multidistrict judge may decide a motion to compel a non-party in other districts even if he or she is not physically situated in those districts." <u>Id.</u> at 586.

More recently, in <u>In re Automotive Refinishing Paint Antitrust Litigation</u>, 229 F.R.D. 482, 487 (E.D. Pa. 2005), plaintiffs moved to compel a non-party foreign witness, CEPE, to respond to plaintiffs' request for production of documents. The <u>Automotive Refinishing</u> court held that under Section 1407(b) it could adjudicate the motion to compel pursuant to its authority as the MDL transferee court. <u>Id.</u> at 486. In support of its conclusion, the court cited to <u>In re Sunrise Sec. Litig.</u>, 130 F.R.D. at 586, for the proposition that Section 1407 authorizes a transferee court judge to sit as the court in "other districts to hear and decide motions to compel discovery from non-parties" and that "a multidistrict judge may decide a motion to compel a non-party in other districts even if he or she is not physically situated in those districts." <u>Id.</u> at

486. See also id. (citing 17 James Wm. Moore et al., Moore's Federal Practice § 112.07[1] [b] (3d ed. 2004) ("[T]he [MDL] judge has jurisdiction to order nonparties to comply with a subpoena duces tecum issued by another district judge. There is no requirement that the [MDL] court or judge be physically present in the other district to decide a motion to compel production pursuant to a subpoena issued by another district." (footnotes omitted)). The Automotive Refinishing court also noted that the Third Circuit has stated in dicta that Section 1407(b) "empowers the transferee judge in multidistrict cases to act not only on behalf of the transferee district, but also with 'the powers of a district judge in any district for the purpose of conducting pretrial depositions in such coordinated or consolidated proceedings." Id. at 486 (citing In re Flat Glass Antitrust Litig., 288 F.3d 83, 90 n.12 (3d Cir. 2002) (internal citations omitted)).

Here, the only case cited by Fry's to support its contest to the jurisdiction of this Court to adjudicate the present dispute is <u>VISX</u>, 208 F.R.D. 615. In <u>VISX</u>, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California was called upon to adjudicate plaintiff's motion to enforce documents-only subpoenas issued to non-parties outside the Northern District of California. <u>Id.</u> at 616. In <u>VISX</u>, the court refused to enforce the documents-only subpoenas at issue, reasoning that: (i) Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(e) provided the only procedure for enforcing a subpoena *duces tecum* is to institute contempt proceedings before the district court that issued the subpoena, and (ii) Section 1407(b) only expands a transferee court's discovery powers only to pretrial depositions, not documents-only subpoenas. <u>Id.</u>

Neither Fry's nor the Class Plaintiffs advised the Court that, in a subsequent decision, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California declined to follow <u>VISX</u>, concluding instead that Section 1407(b) applied to documents-only subpoenas. <u>See In re</u> Welding Rod Products Liability Litigation, 406 F. Supp. 2d 1064 (N.D. Cal. 2005). More

recently, the <u>Pogue Circuit Decision</u> rejected the <u>VISX</u> decision that Section 1407(b)'s authority did not extend to enforcement of documents-only subpoenas. <u>Pogue Circuit Decision</u>, 444 F.3d at 469 n.4. Specifically, the Sixth Circuit concluded "that the rationale underlying the MDL statute of 'just and efficient' resolution of pretrial proceedings requires the conclusion that Section 1407(b)'s grant of authority applies to both deposition subpoenas and documents-only subpoenas." <u>Id.</u>

Given the United States District Court for the Northern District of California's determination not to follow its earlier <u>VISX</u> decision, the <u>Pogue Circuit Decision</u>'s rejection of <u>VISX</u>, and the fact that the <u>VISX</u> decision is at odds with the rationale underlying the MDL statute, the Special Master declines to accord the <u>VISX</u> decision any weight.

Based on the foregoing analysis of the relevant case law, the Special Master concludes that the majority view is the better reasoned view, as it is consistent with the underlying purpose of multidistrict litigation—to provide for a unified concept of pretrial proceedings. Further, the Special Master believes that the Third Circuit would likely adopt the better-reasoned majority view based upon its dicta that Section 1407(b) "empowers the transferee judge in multidistrict cases to act not only on behalf of the transferee district, but also with 'the powers of a district judge in any district for the purpose of conducting pretrial depositions in such coordinated or consolidated proceedings." In re Flat Glass Antitrust Litig., 288 F. 3d 83, 90 n.12 (3d Cir. 2002). Accordingly, the Special Master recommends that this Court conclude that, under the grant of Section 1407, this Court, as the transferee court in multidistrict litigation, has the authority to adjudicate discovery disputes concerning documents-only subpoenas directed to non-parties and issued from a transferring court.

В. The Protective Order

1. The Process Employed to Finalize the Protective Order.

As set forth at the May 1 Hearing, the formulation and entry of the Protective Order was the result of extensive proceedings, whereby non-parties to the litigation were provided with notice of the proposed protective order and an opportunity to provide written comments to the same and argue as to the propriety of the proposed language. Tr, at 9:22-15:19.

An explication of the "process" is important. The first phase of the process, mandated in part by the Court's Case Management Order No. 1 (D.I. 79), is generally set forth as follows:

> The parties with Court approval, have implemented a process to obtain third party input on a Protective Order, and the Proposed Protective Order, as well as the positions of the Parties and third parties will be provided to the Court on or before May 31, 2006.

Case Management Order No. 1. at ¶ 5(b), D.I. 79 (emphasis added).

Solicitation of Input From Non-Parties a.

The first step of the process was to solicit input of non-parties on the proposed protective order. As a result of this process, objections and comments (the "Third Party Objections") were filed by Fry's and the following entities: Hewlett-Packard Company; Egenera, Inc.; Best Buy Company, Inc.; Fujitsu Limited; NEC Corporation; Sony Corporation; Sony Electronics, Inc.; Toshiba Corporation; Circuit City Stores, Inc.; Acer America Corporation: ASI Computer Technologies, Inc.; Avnet, Inc.; Ingram Micro Inc.; Synnex Corporation; Tech Data Corporation; Microsoft Corporation; International Business Machine Corporation; Dell Inc.; Lenova Group Ltd.; Hitachi, Ltd.. D.I. 221 at 2-3.

The process may well have been unprecedented, as counsel for the Class Plaintiffs noted, "I have never been involved where the Court proactively invited third parties to look at a concrete proposal formulated by the parties for a protective order, where they had an opportunity to look at a concrete draft and give written comments as well as to argue as to the propriety of the language. That kind of a proceeding I've never seen." Tr. at 18:3 - 18:10; see also D.I. 461 (suggesting process was unprecedented).

b. <u>Negotiations to Resolve Third Party Objections</u>

The second step in the process was for the parties to engage in discussions with non-parties in an effort to resolve the issues raised in the Third Party Objections and informal responses. This is set forth more fully in the Special Master's Report and Recommendations Regarding Proposed Protective Order (the "Protective Order Report and Recommendations") (D.I. 221) as follows:

Parties' Responses to Objections/Comments

Following the filing of the Third Party Objections, AMD and Intel filed their respective responses and objections to the Third Party Objections. D.I. 148-49. The Parties' responses addressed some, but not all, of the Third Party Objections by voluntary revisions to certain language of the Proposed Protective Order. The Parties, however, were not in complete agreement with respect to the extent to which the Third Party Objections should be accommodated, as well as with respect to the working of the revisions to effect certain of the accommodations. This resulted in competing versions of the Proposed Protective Order pending approval before the Court, as well as outstanding issues with respect to those objections raised by the Third Parties that went largely unaddressed. With the Court's agreement, the Special Master scheduled a hearing on the terms of the Proposed Protective Order and directed the parties to provide appropriate notice to the Third Parties of the hearing.

D.I. 221 at 78.

c. <u>Hearing on Open Disputes Concerning the Protective Order</u>

The issues still in dispute after negotiations were brought before the Special Master at a hearing during which non-parties had an opportunity to argue their respective positions. This step in the process is described in the Protective Order Report and Recommendations as follows:

Hearing re: Proposed Protective Order

On June 9, 2005, prior to the scheduled hearing, the Parties distributed to the Third Parties a revised version of the Proposed Protective Order identifying the changes the parties were willing to make to accommodate certain of the objections posed by the Third Parties, to better allow the scheduled hearing to focus on the provisions remaining in

contention.

On June 12, 2006, the Special Master conducted a hearing at which the parties and Third Parties were afforded an opportunity to be heard with respect to those provisions of the Proposed Protective Order still in dispute. See D.I. 143 (Transcript of June 12, 2006 Hearing, docketed in 05-1717). For the sake of efficiency, the Third Parties agreed — without waiving the objections they had previously submitted in written form — to allow counsel for one Third Party to speak as a representative for all Third Parties with respect to issues on which they shared similar views. Id. at 44:10-46:12.

At the hearing, the major issue in dispute was whether discovery materials obtained through the captioned litigations before this Court – especially Confidential Discovery Materials – can be used for purposes of the Japan Litigation and the California Class Litigation. The Parties and Third Parties also represented that Definitions J, R, S and U of the "Definitions" section of the Proposed Protective Order contained provisions still in dispute. They also identified Paragraphs 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 16 and 31 of the "Terms and Conditions" section as containing provisions still in dispute.

During the course of the hearing, the remaining disputes were either (a) resolved by revisions agreed to by both the Parties and the Third Parties; (b) resolved by determinations reached by the Special Master, or (c) taken under advisement for further consideration and recommendation by the Special Master.⁸

D.I. 221 at 78-79.

Fry's, while choosing to file a Third Party Objection in connection with the Proposed Protective Order on May 22, 2006 (D.I. 98), did not participate in the Special Master's June 12, 2006 hearing, claiming that it did not have a realistic opportunity to participate, as it did not receive adequate notice of the hearing. D.I. 451 at 5, n.4. Fry's reiterates this position in its May 9, 2007 submittal, stating that it "could not as a practical matter participate in the hearing, as it would have required travel to Delaware which was not practical under the circumstances (and it had no reason to retain Delaware counsel)." D.I. 467 at 2, n.2. The Special Master finds

The hearing was conducted pursuant to the Special Master's authority to manage discovery and to conduct hearings. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 53 (b) and (c) and Order Appointing Special Master (D.I. 73 at ¶ 3).

Fry's explanation to be unpersuasive given the participation of other Third Parties. In any event, it should be noted that Fry's objections were duly accepted and considered.

d. The Protective Order Report and Recommendations

The Protective Order Report and Recommendations itself was part of the process, spanning 117 pages described: (a) the Third Party Objections, (b) revisions made to the Protective Order in light of the Third Party Objections and ensuing discussions to resolve such objections, (c) unresolved disputes, and (d) recommendations with respect to such unresolved disputes and the bases supporting the same.

e. Objections to the Protective Order Report and Recommendations

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 53(g)(2), parties and non-parties were afforded a twenty-day period within which to file any objection to the Special Master's Protective Order Report and Recommendations. Neither Fry's nor any third party filed any objection. Only Intel and Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. ("AMD") availed themselves of this opportunity, filing their respective objections. D.I. 111 and 112.

f. Entry of the Protective Order

Ultimately, on September 26, 2006, this Court, after considering objections filed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 53(g)(2) by both Intel (D.I. 111) and AMD (D.I. 112), adopted the Protective Order proposed by the Special Master (D.I. 275) and entered the Protective Order as proposed by the Special Master (D.I. 277). There was no D. Del. L.R. 7.1.5 Motion for Reargument filed by any party or third party.

g. <u>Fry's Participation in the Process</u>

The Class Plaintiffs take the position that the Protective Order is the law of the case, and, regardless, Fry's has not met its good cause burden to effect its change. D.I. 464. Fry's on the

other hand, while asserting that it has shown good cause, attempts to characterize the process leading up to entry of the Protective Order as, in essence, a meet and confer among the parties, the Third Parties and ultimately with the Special Master, and suggesting that Fry's participation or lack thereof in such process should have no consequence. D.I. 467. The Special Master concludes that the participation or lack thereof of Fry's in the established process is a factor that is appropriate to consider in the good cause analysis as to whether the Protective Order should be modified.

2. <u>Fry's Present Concerns Regarding the Protective Order Were Raised Previously</u>

Fry's present concerns with respect to the existing Protective Order were previously raised in the context of Third Party Objections. These concerns were specifically considered in the Protective Order Report and Recommendations and were addressed either through revision or rejected. See D.I. 221, pp. 39-40, 44, 48-49, 81-82, 90, 96-97.

a. Experts/Consultants

Fry's suggests that prior to the disclosure of highly confidential information to any expert or consultant, the party seeking such disclosure should provide Fry's with not less than ten days advance notice of such disclosure, which notice shall identify the expert or consultant, identify the person's title, job responsibilities and affiliations with any party, and include a copy of the person's most recent curriculum vitae that identifies all of such person's past and present employment and/or consulting relationships. D.I. 328 at Ex. E, Case No. 05-485. Further, Fry's suggests that each party should be limited to designate only one expert or consultant who is authorized to receive such highly confidential material. <u>Id.</u>

With respect to seeking the disclosure of the experts/consultants that may have access to its highly confidential information, Fry's did not object to paragraph 11 of the Proposed

Protective Order in its Third Party Objection. D.I. 221 at 44-45; 92-96.

Regardless, a number of third parties did object to paragraph 11 of the Proposed Protective Order. The Protective Order Report and Recommendations described the objections to paragraphs 6(b) and 11 and the resolution of same as follows:

C. Paragraph 6(b) and 11 (revised)

Paragraph 6(b) and 11 address disclosure of Confidential Discovery Materials to Experts/Consultants. The Third Parties objected to the original language of these paragraphs on the basis that it would permit disclosure of their Confidential Discovery Materials to such professionals, without notification to the Third Parties. As argued by the Third Parties:

The technology world is small and getting smaller every day. And who the parties are selecting, and my guess is there's going to be quite a number of experts and consultants in this case, and who they're using may very well be relevant to the non-parties in the context of the ordinary course of their business. . . [T]heir is clearly a legitimate business interest for the non-parties to know who's getting access to their incredibly sensitive information.

D.I. 143 at 88:12-89:6.

The Parties initially argued against the change sought by the Third Parties "simply because there's going to be a lot of experts, a lot of consultants. Many of them are non-testimonial. And both Intel and AMD view that as work product that we wouldn't, in the ordinary course, be disclosing to anybody, nor would we have any obligation to do so." D.I. 143 at 89:13-20. The Parties, however, went on to offer that they would be willing to accommodate the Third Parties' concerns in the spirit of compromise, and agreed to work with the Third Parties to come up with mutually acceptable language.

Following the hearing, by submission dated June 15, 2006, the Parties agreed to revise the concluding paragraph of Paragraph 11 to add the following language:

Except with the consent of the Producing Party, however, Confidential Discovery Material shall not be disclosed to an expert or consultant who at the time of the intended disclosure is an officer or employee of a party. The

Acknowledge of Protective Order signed and executed by a Party's or Class Party's Expert/Consultant [] shall be made available to Third Parties whose confidential Discovery Material is disclosed to that Expert/Consultant, under the express agreement that such Third Parties maintain the information contained in the Acknowledgement in absolute confidence.

Based upon this record, the Special Master concludes that Paragraphs 6(b) and 11 of the Proposed Protective Order, including certain of the proposed revisions agreed to by both the Parties and the Third Parties, is acceptable and recommends that the proposed revision to Paragraph 11 should be reworded as set forth above.

Protective Order Report and Recommendations D.I. 221, pp. 81-82.

While the revisions set forth above do not provide Fry's with 10 days advance notice and the extensive work history in the form of a curriculum vitae that it now seeks, the Protective Order does strike a balance between the interest of non-parties in knowing who will have access to their confidential information and protecting a party's ability to retain its own expert of choice. Accordingly, the Special Master concludes that Fry's has not shown good cause to disrupt this balance and modify the Protective Order in this regard.

b. <u>In-House Counsel and a Two-Tier System</u>

In its proposed revisions to the Protective Order, Fry's suggests a two-tier system — one tier for outside counsel's eyes only in connection with discovery material believed to be extremely confidential and/or sensitive in nature or a "trade secret" (as defined in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c) and 45(c)(3)(B)(i)) and a second tier for less sensitive material that would contemplate inhouse counsel review. D.I. 328 at Ex. E, Case No. 05-485.

In its Third Party Objection, Fry's also argued for this two-tier approach to protect its highly confidential information from in-house counsel. See D.I. 221 at 39-40 and 48-49. Fry's was not alone with its concern regarding in-house counsel of the parties having access to

Confidential Discovery Material. Id.

The concerns with respect to in-house counsel's access to Confidential Discovery Material were primarily addressed in the revision to Definition G of the Protective Order defining "In-House Litigation Counsel." D.I. 221 at 86-87. Specifically, the revisions to the definition of In-House Litigation Counsel were designed to expand the categories that would prohibit the disclosure of Confidential Discovery Material to include in-house counsel who are engaged in: (a) the review or negotiation of any contract with a producing party related to the sale of microprocessors, (b) counseling in connection with PC or server manufacturing or operating system or software design or development, and (c) the licensing of Microsoft software or technology. D.I. 221 at 86.

The Proposed Protective Order had already carved out in-house counsel that were engaged in the review and approval of competitive pricing or marketing programs which is, among others, one of Fry's primary concerns. <u>Id.</u>

Further, in response to the concerns raised by the Third Party Objections, the parties proposed to limit the number of in-house lawyers who would receive access to third parties' discovery materials to two lawyers at Intel and two lawyers at AMD. D.I. 221 at 86; D.I. 277 ¶ 6(c). Additionally, the parties proposed to revise paragraph 6(c) of the Protective Order to require notice to the producing parties of the identity of the in-house lawyers who will have access to the discovery materials. D.I. 221 at 48-49 and 86; D.I. 277 ¶ 6(c).

Finally, with respect to Fry's concern regarding where and how in-house counsel have access to Confidential Discovery Material, paragraph 9 of the Protective Order already limited the way in which in-house counsel could view and access Confidential Discovery Material. D.I.

⁹ Although the Protective Order Report and Recommendations refers to Definition J in this regard, it is Definition G of the final version of the Protective Order (D.I. 277) that contains the definition of In-House Litigation Counsel.

221 at 48-49 and D.I. 277 at ¶ 9.

Despite the existing protections in the Protective Order regarding In House Litigation Counsel having access to highly confidential information, Fry's persists in arguing for a two-tier form of Protective Order. At the May 1 Hearing, the Special Master permitted Fry's to supplement its filings with a post-hearing submittal that focused on a protective order entered by Judge Kent A. Jordan in In re Tricor Direct Purchaser Antitrust Litigation, No. 1:05-cv-00340-KAJ and 1:05-cv-00360-KAJ (D. Del.). On May 2, 2007, Fry's submitted its letter and supporting materials, which materials included letter briefs previously submitted to Judge Jordan by counsel for the parties in In re Tricor Direct Purchaser Antitrust Litigation, D.I. 451 through D.I. 453.

The Special Master did not find the protective order entered by Judge Jordan to be particularly instructive to the matter *sub judice*, as every protective order has its own unique history involving the negotiations and concerns of the interested parties that went into its crafting.

Similarly, Fry's directs the Special Master to statements made by Judge Farnan over six years ago in F. Hoffman-La Roche, Ltd. v. Igen International, Inc., Case No. 98-318-JJF, whereby Judge Farnan states: "In this district, highly confidential, assuming the information is properly designated, ... is limited to outside counsel, experts and consultants." D.I. 467, Ex. B.10 At the same time, Fry's in its May 2, 2007 submittal included correspondence from Chief Judge Sue L. Robinson dated March 14, 2006, and an Order dated January 25, 2005, that appear to be directly at odds with the foregoing statement of Judge Farnan. D.I. 452, Ex. C. Specifically, in the March 14, 2006 letter, Judge Robinson writes, "I allow in every case one in-

¹⁰ Notwithstanding the earlier statement, Judge Farnan did, of course, adopt the Protective Order Report and Recommendations in its entirety and entered the Protective Order as proposed.

house representative to view the most confidential of documents." <u>Id.</u>; January 25, 2005 Order (same) at <u>id.</u>

Interestingly, neither Fry's nor the Class Plaintiffs in their written responses direct the Special Master to any relevant case law on the subject. Fry's, however, in its May 2, 2007 submittal included correspondence to Judge Jordan dated November 24, 2006, that sets forth relevant case law regarding whether and when it is appropriate to exclude in-house from having access to confidential information. D.I. 452, Ex. C. The Special Master believes that a review of the relevant case law is both instructive and compelling.

The seminal case on the subject is <u>U.S. Steel Corp. v. United States</u>, 730 F.2d 1465 (Fed. Cir. 1984). <u>U.S. Steel</u> provides that a party's designation as in-house counsel cannot serve to automatically deny that party access to information deemed confidential. <u>Id.</u> at 1467. <u>See also R.R. Donnelley & Sons Co. v. Quark, Inc.</u>, C.A. No. 06-032-JJF, 2007 WL 61885, at *1 (D. Del. Jan. 4, 2007); <u>Affymetrix, Inc. v. Illumina, Inc.</u>, C.A. No. 04-901-JJF, 2005 WL 1801683, at *2 (D. Del. July 28, 2006); <u>United States v. Dentsply International, Inc.</u>, 187 F.R.D. 152, 159 (D. Del. 1999)¹¹; <u>Motorola, Inc. v. Interdigital Technology Corp.</u>, C.A. No. 93-488-LON, 1994 WL 16189689, at *3 (D. Del. Dec. 19, 1994). U.S. Steel further provides that courts must look to the factual circumstances surrounding each individual counsel's activities, associations and relationships with a party, with a focus as to whether in-house counsel are involved in the competitive decision making process. <u>Id.</u> at 1468. This District has consistently followed <u>U.S. Steel</u> and its "competitive decision making standard" when considering whether in-house counsel should be denied access to highly confidential information. <u>P. See, e.g., R.R. Donnelley</u>,

12 It should be noted that a line of cases exists recognizing that courts often afford fuller protection to technological

While court applied the "competitive decision making standard" to the motion at issue because the litigants agreed on such standard, the court acknowledged that non-parties to litigation are situated differently than parties, not having undertaken the risks of disclosure. <u>Id.</u> at 160, n. 7.

2007 WL 61885, *1; Affymetrix, 2005 WL 1801683, at *2; Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique v. Dell Computer Corp., C.A. No. 03-484-KAJ, 2004 WL 1196965, at *2 (D. Del. May 25, 2004); Dentsply, 187 F.R.D. at 159-60; Motorola, 1994 WL 16189689, at *3. See also Carpenter Technology Corp. v. Armco, Inc., 132 F.R.D. 24, 27 (E.D. Pa. 1990); Sullivan Marketing, Inc. v. Valassis Communications, Inc., C.A. No. 93-6350, 1994 WL 177795, at *2 (S.D.N.Y. May 5, 1994).

Where in-house counsel are not involved in competitive decision making, courts have routinely refused to bar in-house counsel access to confidential discovery materials. See, e.g., In re Plastics Additives Antitrust Litigation, C.A. No. 03-2038, 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 23771, at *11-12 (E.D. Pa. Aug. 24, 2005)) (granting in-house counsel access to confidential discovery materials where no involvement in "competitive decision making"); Carpenter Technology Corp., 132 F.R.D. at 27-28 (allowing senior staff attorney access to confidential information where his affidavit indicated that he had no involvement in decisions regarding pricing of products or services sold, nor did he participate in marketing decisions or product design or production).

While the Special Master did not conduct a hearing focused on named in-house counsel and their precise duties, the Protective Order at issue essentially accomplishes the same result by defining in-house counsel in such a way as to exclude persons who engage in competitive decision making.¹³ The restrictions contemplated by the referenced case law are built into the definition of "In-House Litigation Counsel" which provides as follows:

"In-House Litigation Counsel" means any attorney who is an employee in the legal department of a Party whose responsibilities consist of overseeing the AMD Litigation or the Class Litigation, and who shall not from the date of entry of this

cases (e.g., patent and design information). See, e.g., Safe Flight Instrument Corp. v. Sundstrand Data Control Inc., 682 F. Supp. 20, 22 (D. Del. 1988).

No third party requested such a hearing.

Protective Order through a period of one (1) year following the conclusion of the AMD Litigation or the Class Litigation, whichever occurs later, be engaged in: (a) the review and approval of competitive pricing or marketing programs; (b) the review of any aspect of microprocessor or chipset manufacturing, (c) the filing or prosecution of patent applications, (d) the review or negotiation of any contract with a Producing Party related to the sale or marketing of microprocessors, (e) counseling in connection with PC or server manufacturing or operating system or software design or development, and (f) the licensing of Microsoft software or technology.

D.I. 277 at Definition G.

The Special Master concludes that Fry's has not met its burden to show good cause in light of the developed case law. Moreover, the Special Master concludes that Fry's commercial or trade secrets are adequately protected under the Protective Order.

3. Fry's Should Not Have A Second Bite of the Apple.

As set forth above, Fry's present concerns with respect to the existing Protective Order were previously raised in the context of Third Party Objections. These concerns were specifically considered in the Protective Order Report and Recommendations and were either addressed in some fashion through revision or rejected. See D.I. 221, pp. 39-40, 44, 48-49, 81-82, 90, 96-97.

Fry's unconvincingly argues that the concerns it previously raised in connection with its Third Party Objection should now be revisited, as warranted by the different landscape confronting Fry's at the present. Tr. 19:6 – 23:13. Specifically, Fry's argues in essence for a second bite at the apple because first, it was not served with the Subpoena until approximately one month after it had filed its Third Party Objection and, therefore, did not have notice with respect to the precise information being presently sought; and second there are now "tens and tens of law firms representing class plaintiffs that want to have access to Fry's data." Tr. 23:8-13.

The Special Master concluded that the timeline in this case belies Fry's arguments:

- July 12, 2005 Class Plaintiffs filed their class action complaint (D.I. 1, Case No. 05-485);
- October 4, 2005, AMD served Fry's with a documents-only subpoena seeking, among other things, documents sufficient to show (a) financial inducements in connection with the purchase of computer systems, and (b) "retail sell-through of computer systems on a monthly basis since January 1, 2001" (D.I. 440, Ex. F of Volin Decl.);
- May 22, 2006 Fry's filed its Third Party Objection in connection with the Proposed Protective Order (D.I. 98); .
- June 2, 2006 Fry's was provided notice of the opportunity to participate in the hearing regarding the Proposed Protective Order prior to its entry, and chose not to avail itself of the opportunity to participate in such hearing (D.I. 122);
- June 23, 2006 Fry's was served with Class Plaintiffs' documents-only subpoena seeking, among other things, transactional data which is considered a "commercial or technical trade secret" as contemplated by the Proposed Protective Order. (D.I. 206);14
- June 27, 2006 The Protective Order Report and Recommendations issued, which included the following language:

WHEREAS, the preparation for trial of these actions may require the discovery and use of documents and other information which constitute or contain commercial or technical trade secrets, or other confidential information the disclosure of which would be competitively harmful to the producing party ... (D.I. 221, p. 4).

- July 17, 2007, the deadline to file an objection to the Protective Order Report and Recommendations expires pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 53(g)(2) and Fry's does not file any objection to the Protective Order Report and Recommendations;
- September 26, 2007 The Honorable Joseph J. Farnan, Jr. adopted the Protective Order Report and Recommendations (D.I. 275) and entered the Protective Order (D.I. 277); and
- October 6, 2006 the time to file a motion for reargument in connection with the entry of the Protective Order expires and Fry's does not file any such motion.

The Special Master concludes that Fry's should not now be heard to complain.

¹⁴ The AMD documents and subpoena and the Fry's documents-only subpoena are in large measure the same. They both seek data which should be considered commercial or trade secret.

C. Fry's Miscellaneous Objections

The Special Master defers consideration on all the objections, pending the on-going meet and confer process that the Class Plaintiffs and Fry's are presently engaged in.

<u>CONCLUSION</u>

For the reasons set forth above, the Special Master concludes as follows:

- 1. The Court has authority, as the transferee court in multidistrict litigation, to adjudicate discovery disputes concerning documents-only subpoenas directed to non-parties and issued by transferring courts;
 - Fry's has failed to demonstrate good cause to amend the Protective Order; 2.
 - 3. Other Fry's objections are not ripe for consideration.

In accordance with the Court's Order dated May 7, 2007 (D.I. 465), a party may file objections to, or a motion to adopt or modify, the Special Master's Order, Report or Recommendation on any issues related to the Motion to Compel no later than 5 days from the time the Special Master's Order, Report or Recommendation is served.

ENTERED this 18 th day of May, 2007

Vincent J. Poppiti (DSBA No. 100614)

Special Master

EXHIBIT 8

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

IN RE: INTEL CORPORATION MICROPROCESSOR ANTITRUST LITIGATION) Civil Action No. 05-MD-1717-JJF
PHIL PAUL, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,)))
Plaintiffs,) Civil Action No. 05-485-JJF
٧.) CONSOLIDATED ACTION
INTEL CORPORATION,))
Defendant.)

STIPULATION & ORDER

WHEREAS, on March 29, 2007, Class Plaintiffs filed a motion to compel in the form of a letter brief to the Special Master requesting that Fry's Electronics, Inc. ("Fry's") be compelled to produce certain purchase and sales data in response to the subpoena served by Class Plaintiffs on Fry's on June 23, 2006;

WHEREAS, Class Plaintiffs and Fry's have met and conferred before and after the motion in an attempt to agree upon the data that Fry's would produce in response to the subpoena. These negotiations have included a series of proposals and counter-proposals from Fry's and Class Plaintiffs; and

WHEREAS, the Special Master held a teleconference on July 31, 2007 in which Fry's and Class Plaintiffs agreed that a briefing schedule should be entered to complete briefing of the motion to compel. Class Plaintiffs proposed and Fry's agreed that the additional briefing would be limited to the issue of whether (a) the latest data production proposal from Fry's or (b) the

latest data production proposal from Class Plaintiffs should be accepted by the Court as the more appropriate resolution of the motion to compel;

NOW, THEREFORE, Class Plaintiffs and Fry's, by and through their undersigned counsel, and subject to the approval of the Special Master, hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

- 1. A further hearing on Class Plaintiffs' motion to compel production of documents shall be set for September 7, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. Any party may appear telephonically or in person, provided that any party electing to appear in person shall notify the Court and all other parties of its intention to do so on or before September 3, 2007. Should any party choose to appear in person, the other parties shall have the option of appearing in person or telephonically.
- 2. On August 10, 2007, Class Plaintiffs shall serve and file an opening letter brief not to exceed five single-spaced pages. On August 20, 2007, Fry's shall serve and file its letter response not to exceed five single-spaced pages. On August 27, 2007, Class Plaintiffs shall serve and file a letter reply to Fry's response not to exceed three single-spaced pages.
- 3. The supplemental briefing shall address solely the issue of whether (a) the latest proposal from Fry's, (b) the latest proposal from Class Plaintiffs, or (c) a new position that Fry's or Class Plaintiffs believes in good faith falls between the latest proposals from Fry's and Class Plaintiffs should be accepted by the Court as the most appropriate resolution of the motion to compel. The Special Master may choose either proposal, the new "middle" position, or a variation of any of these as the appropriate resolution of the motion to compel.
- 4. Any future negotiations between Fry's and Class Plaintiffs in an effort to reach a negotiated resolution of the motion to compel will be conducted off the record and neither the substance nor the fact of such negotiations may be disclosed to the Special Master.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the May 4, 2007 Stipulation and Order that imposes certain confidentiality restrictions on information provided by Fry's to Class Plaintiffs, the Undertakings signed by Class Counsel and their experts pursuant to paragraph 1 of the May 4, 2007 Stipulation and Order, and agreements between Class Plaintiffs and Fry's to keep their negotiations off the record, the supplemental briefs may contain any information provided by Fry's or Class Counsel in the course of their negotiations and meet and confer sessions, including but not limited to their May 14, 2007 meet and confer; provided, however, that any brief containing any such information shall be filed with the Court under seal and shall remain under seal pending further order of the Court.

DATED: August 6, 2007

PRICKETT JONES & ELLIOTT, P.A.

By: /s/ J. Clayton Athey

James L. Holzman (#663)

J. Clayton Athey (#4378)

1310 King Street

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Interim Liaison Counsel for Class Plaintiffs

MORRIS NICHOLS ARSHT & TUNNELL LLP

By: /s/ Mary B. Graham

Mary B. Graham (#2256)
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(302) 658-9200
mgraham@mnat.com
Attorneys for Fry's Electronics, Inc.

SO ORDERED.

ENTERED this GM day of August, 2007.

Vincent J. Poppiti (DSBA No. 100614)

Special Master

EXHIBIT 9

CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT 10

CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT 11

CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT 12

Page 1

CONFIDENTIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

ADVANCED MICRO DEVICES,

Plaintiffs,

Civil Action No.

05-441-JJF

V.

INTEL CORPORATION,

Defendant.

Teleconference in above matter taken pursuant to notice before Renee A. Meyers, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public, in the offices of Blank Rome, LLP, 1201 North Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware, on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, beginning at approximately 2:30 p.m., there being present:

grand and the option of the contract of

BEFORE:

THE HONOROABLE VINCENT J. POPPITI, SPECIAL MASTER

APPEARANCES:

O'MELVENY & MYERS
LINDA SMITH, ESQ.
JENNIFER LASER, ESQ.
1999 Avenue of the Stars
Los Angeles, California 90067
for AMD

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2 (Pages 2 to 5)

	Page 2		Page 4
1	APPEARANCES (Continued):	1	be noted for the record, that's fine as well.
2.	RIGHARDS, LAYTON & FINGER FREDERICK L. COTTRELL, III, ESQ.	2	MR. COTTRELL: Your Honor, in Wilmington,
3:	One Rodney Square Wilmington, DE 19899	2	Fred Cottrell for AMD.
4	for AMD	4	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you.
5	POTTER, ANDERSON & CORROON RICHARD L. HORWITZ, ESQ.	5	MS. LASER: Your Honor, Jennifer Laser and
6	1313 North Market Street, 6th Floor Wilmington, DF. 19899	5	Linda Smith for AMD from O'Melveny.
7	for Intel	7	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you very
8	PRICKETT, JONES & ELLIOTT	8	much.
9	CLAYTON J. ATHEY, ESQ.	9	MR. HORWITZ: Good afternoon, Your Honor.
10	1310 King Street Wilmington, DE 19801	10	It's Rich Horwitz at Potter Anderson for Intel.
11	for Class	11	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you, sir.
12	COHEN, MILSTEIN, HAUSFELD & TÖLL, P.L.L.C. DANIEL SMALL, ESQ.	12	Anyone else from Intel? Okay.
ļ.	1100 New York Avenue, N.W	13	Mr. Horwitz, do you expect anyone else to be
13.	Suite 500, West Tower Washington, D.C. 20005	14	joining us and should we wait?
1,4	for Class	į.	The state of the s
15	FINKELSTEIN THOMPSON & LOUGHRAN RICHARD VOLEN, ESQ.	15	MR. HORWITZ: I think we can go ahead. SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay, good.
16	235 Pine Street, 15th Floor San Francisco, California 94104	16	
17	for Class	17	Let me, and maybe helping to frame what I'd
18	Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell Mary Graham, Esq.	18	like discussion to be this afternoon to focus on what I
. 19	1201 North Market Street Wilmington, Delaware 19899	19	expected was some degree of confusion in terms of what
20	for Frys Electronics	20	was being asked to look at for purposes of making a
21	QUINN EMANUH. MICHAEL POWELL, ESQ.	.21	finding and recommendation today. And in that regard,
22	ROBERT STONE, ESQ 865 S. Figueros Street, 10th Floor	22	I, earlier, in the, I guess it was last week, I had an
23	Los Angeles, Catifornia 90017	23	off-the-record conversation with local counsel, and was,
2.4	for Frys Tilectronics	24	in fact, then directed to correspondence from Frys dated
1	Page 3		Page 5
1	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Start with the	1	August the 20th, and was told that my review of the
2	Class plaintiffs, please.	2	materials that you submitted to me was for the purpose
3	MR. ATHEY: Your Honor, this is Clayton	3	of making a determination as between the proposals
4	Athey for Class plaintiffs.	4	outlined in that correspondence, proposals No. 1 from
5	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you.	5	the Class and proposal No. 3 from Frys. They are
6	MR. SMALL: Your Honor, Dan Small with	6	located respectively at pages I and 2 of that document.
7	Cohen, Milstein for the Class plaintiffs.	7	In doing that, one of the things that I am
8	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you.	8	sure is clear to everyone is that, with respect to the
9	MR. VOLEN: Richard Volen with Finkelstein	9	declaration filed on behalf of the Class of Jonathan M.
1.0	Thompson also for the Class plaintiffs.	10	Orszag, O-r-s-z-a-g, I hope I um pronouncing that
11	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you.	11	correctly, the date of his declaration, and it is his
12	And from Frys?	1.2	second declaration, is August the 10th, 2007, I would
13	MS. GRAHAM: Mary Graham.	13	note, for the record, that Mr. Orszag's declaration is
•		14	against the backdrop of him understanding, if I am
1.4	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you.		reading this correctly, that Frys was proposing to only
15	MR. STONE: Robert Stone, Your Honor, from	16	provide information with respect to HP, and I think it
16	Quinn Emanuel.		would have required Compac as well; am I correct so far?
1.7	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you, sir.	•	
18	Anyone else for Frys?	18	MR. SMALL: Your Honor, this is Dan Small
19	MR. POWELL: Also Mike Powell from Quinn	E .	for the Class.
20	Emanuel.	20	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Yes.
21	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you.	21	MR, SMALL: If you look at Mr. Orszag's
22	And if others are joining the call and would	22	second declaration, he does address the issue of whether
ŧ ' '		State of the	والمستعدد المستعدد المؤار الأواراء المراورة والمرورورة والمستعدد والمستعدد والمستعدد والمستعدد والمستعدد والمستعدد
23 24	like to be noted for the record, please do that as well even if you don't intend to speak. If you don't need to	23 24	Frys offered in produce just data for HP is sufficient, but he also effectively addresses the question of

3 (Pages 6 to 9)

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Page 6
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   1
       whether a production of Compac, HP, and Toshiba, without 1
                                                                        some determination, because we are not in the context of
   2
       -- I am sorry, let me try that again -- Compac, Toshiba.
                                                                        a Special Master assisting with a meet and confer. You
                                                                   2
  3
       and Gateway, without IIP, would be sufficient.
                                                                   3
                                                                        have asked me to make a finding, if you will, for
   4
               SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: And I know he did
                                                                   4
                                                                        purposes of grounding a recommendation and a proposal t
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       that. I am going to want you to discuss that with me
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                                                                        the Court. What you are asking me to do is to make some
   б
       because, certainly, when you filed his declaration with
                                                                        determination, at this stage of the proceeding, in the
                                                                   6
   7
       me, although he may have intended to do that, I am going
                                                                   7
                                                                        discovery stage - and I think it's worthy of note that
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       to want to make sure that I understand it in light of
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                                                                        counsel hasn't provided me with any case law that
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       the fact that we are no longer talking about the
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                                                                        directly focuses on the discovery issues, nor have I
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       proposal that he felt was on the table. So, that's one
                                                                 10
                                                                        found any, and, yet, at the same time, I have been
 11
                                                                 11
       thing -
                                                                        informed of some of the case law that says, in so many
 12
               MR. SMALL: It is true, Your Honor -
                                                                 12
                                                                        words, from Frys' perspective, you don't need much to
 13
               SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: - I want you to
                                                                 13
                                                                        get you over the hump. You need some methodology that
 14
       help me with.
                                                                 14
                                                                        if you will, I am not going to use the precise language
 15
               MR. SMALL: Mr. Orszag never specifically
                                                                 15
                                                                        of the cases, but some methodology that makes some
 16
       addressed the latest proposal from Frys.
                                                                 16
                                                                        sense. It does not have to be with the - and the
 17
              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Right.
                                                                 17
                                                                        methodology is informed by either facts that you have or
 18
               MR. SMALL: Or Toshiba, eMachines, and
                                                                 18
                                                                        facts that you expect exist.
 19
       Gateway Computers.
                                                                 19
                                                                               And the reason why I say it that way, in
 20
              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Right.
                                                                 20
                                                                        looking at the one case that Frys brought to my
 21
              MR. SMALL: I think the principles --
                                                                 2.1
                                                                        attention, that is, the -- the Romero case, it's Romero
 22
              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Mr. Small, let me
                                                                 22
                                                                        versus Phillip Morris, Inc., I noted that Romero, in its
 23
       just help with a few other observations, if I might.
                                                                 23
                                                                        discussion of that very view, referenced a Third Circuit
24
       Just hold your thoughts, but I do want you to discuss
                                                                 24
                                                                        case by the name of Bogosia, and that's B-o-g-o-s-i-a,
                                                     Page 7
 1
       that with me.
                                                                  1
                                                                        versus Gulf Oil Corp., that's at 561 F 2nd 434, and that
  2
              MR. SMALL: Okay.
                                                                  2
                                                                        was a 1977 case, what Romero says that Bogosia says was
 3
              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: The second
                                                                  3
                                                                       just what I referenced to you.
  1
       observation is this: I have certainly been aware of
                                                                  4
                                                                               The other thing that I think is important to
  5
       discussions, and you have better informed me of those,
                                                                  5
                                                                        note, that, following on Bogosia, the Third Circuit
  6
       that focused on what the Class expected that it needed
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                                                                       again took the opportunity to look at the issue at the
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       at this stage of the litigation, for purposes of Class
                                                                  7
                                                                       Class - or after the Class certification stage, on
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       certification, and Lunderstand that when you translated
                                                                  8
                                                                       review, in the case of Linerboard, L-i-n-e-r-b-o-a-r-d,
 9
       that into your meet and confers, that, early on, both in
                                                                  9
                                                                       Antitrust Litigation versus Stone Container Corporation,
10
                                                                       and, in my view, I read Linerboard to say the same thing
       correspondence to Frys, and I believe I have seen that
                                                                 10
11
       as well even in some of the earlier correspondence to me
                                                                11
                                                                       that Bogosia said and to say the same thing that Romero
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       with respect to the matter that's before me, there was a
                                                                 12
13
       representation that what was needed was a sampling to
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                                                                              Lthink it's important, therefore, at this
14
       fit whatever formula your expert or experts come up with
                                                                14
                                                                       stage of this conversation with me, I need to be focused
15
       that represented ten percent, if you will. And I am
                                                                 15
                                                                       on whether the proposal, either coming from the Class or
16
       certainly mindful of that, No. 1.
                                                                16
                                                                       coming from Frys, meets the immediate need of what you
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              No. 2, in preparing me for our discussion
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                                                                       expect you need for Class certification.
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       today, I understand that Frys' position is that you
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                                                                              I do understand that part of your discussion
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       don't need as much of the information that you are
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                                                                       in meet and confers was to say to each other, If we are
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      currently asking for. And that even though I am not
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                                                                       able to resolve this, then we are, in fact, at
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      going to be examining it against questions of whether or
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                                                                      resolution, at least I think I understood this
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      not the information constitutes trade secret -- because
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                                                                       correctly, with respect to anything we need from Frys.
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What we get, by agreement, we get, and we will look for

nothing more from Frys.

we are a little bit beyond that in light of what you

have asked me to do - it is important for me to make

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(Pages 10 to 13)

Page 10 Page 12 1 Am I correct at least with respect to that 1 seems to me that's where we are because if I were 2 last statement? 2 looking at this from the perspective of what does the -3 MR. SMALL: Yes, Your Honor. And that's 3 Class need to prove its case, we are talking about a 4 true as to the Class plaintiffs. 4 different universe of -- a different bucket of 5 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Right. 5 information because I think what I have seen, through ć MR. SMALL: I guess the other parties would 6 the cases that either you have brought to my attention 7 you have to address that to them. 7 or the ones that I just brought to your attention, even 8 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I understand that. 8 at the Class - at the stage when a question about the 9 9 Class certification was raised, and that's the context MR. SMALL: Yeah. 10 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: But from Frys' 10 in which these cases that you brought to my attention 11 perspective, was that not true, at least with respect to 11 and that I have reviewed and that I have shared with 12 you, that's the stage of those proceedings, it's either the negotiations, had you reached resolution? 12 13 MR. STONE: Yes, Your Honor. 13 a Class that was certified or Class that was not 14 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: So, part of the 14 certified, and the Third Circuit, in the two cases that 15 predicament I am in, if you will, is I am not in a 15 I referenced to you, talking about what was needed. 16 16 So, yeah, we are at the stage pre-Class position to give that to you because I am not here to 17 say, Let's see how these meet and confers are going and 17 certification, and it just seems to me that unless you 18 maybe we can get some assist or guidance from the 18 can show me something to the contrary, that I am 19 19 Special Master for purposes of resolving our dispute. refuctant to require that a third party -- and I only 20 So I am really not in a position to say, Okay, here is 20 say "third party" because it's not any party, it is a 21 what I am going to be recommending to Judge Farnan, and 21 third party -- what information that third party should 22 in addition to that, I am going to be recommending that 22 be required to give at this stage of the proceedings, 23 this be all that Frys is required to do, and that's, of 23 knowing what I expect is the requirement in the Third 24 course, with an assumption that the certification --24 Circuit and not knowing, however, whether the Class is Page 11 that the Class is certified, and then the Class is in going to be successful in achieving Class certification. 1 2 2 the position of having to do literal fact discovery for If it's not successful in achieving Class 3 3 purposes of proving up its case. certification, my sense is that even if the Class 4 So I feel I am in somewhat of a sling here 4 plaintiffs were willing to assume 100 percent of the 5 that I can't work beyond with. 5 actual dollar burden, if you will, of gathering this 6 6 I mean, I hope those comments help you frame information, I am not sure that it has contemplated that everything within the universe, as you have described 7 7 the discussion that I know I want you to have with me, 8 and then I will have some questions. 8 it, is fair and just. 9 MR. SMALL: Okay. Your Honor, this is Dan ġ MR. SMALL: Your Honor, even if we look at 10 10 Small for the Class. this just from a Class certification perspective, I 11 think there are a couple things to point out. 11 Would you like me to proceed? SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Yes, please. First of all, of course, discovery has not 12 12 13 MR. SMALL: If I could start, Your Honor, 13 been bifurcated in this case, and it would certainly, 14 with just making sure I understand some of the import of 14 given that, be the normal situation that a third party 15 your comments? Are you asking us to address 15 would make a single production of its data for all 16 16 specifically what would be the data that the Class purposes in the case. 17 17 Now, I understand Your Honor thinking of it believes it needs for Class certification purposes with 18 18 differently from that, but recall that the way this is the understanding that this would be in the nature of an 19 interim ruling by Your Honor that would preserve the 19 now presented to Your Honor, there are just two 20 20 right of the Class plaintiffs and others to seek proposals, both of which, themselves, are small parts of 21 additional data after Class certification from Frys? 21 the total volume of data that was subpoensed by the 22 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: It seems to me 22 23 23 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: They are, indeed. that's where we are. I mean, I'd like you to -- let's

take a few minutes and discuss that with me, but it

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And I completely understand that.

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5 (Pages 14 to 17)

Page 14

MR. SMALL: So we are beginning with the question of, you know, which sample is adequate for the Class plaintiffs' need.

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SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Focus on that for me, then, if you will, because I want you to focus on what I understand Frys' position to be.

You asked for ten percent. They are giving you something that does represent more than ten percent even with the 2/3 OEMs that they have data for.

MR. SMALL: Your Honor, as we pointed out to Frys before, and we have said in our brief to Your Honor, I believe it was our reply brief, ten percent is not a number alone that has any significance to our economists.

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Right.

MR. SMALL: It's only one sort of threshold requirement that Frys data must satisfy for it to be a sufficient sample. We have pointed out that, in addition to having at least ten percent of their sales covered by the data, we also need to have adequate diversity across several dimensions, and we have listed

> SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Right. MR. SMALL: We need to know, you know, such 24

Page 16

accounted for more than ten percent of Frysl lap top sales each year during the relevant time period, but we

don't know how significant that is because we don't know what portion of Frys' sales lap tops constitute.

If Frys sells mostly desk tops, then ten percent of a very small percentage of their overall computer sales may be too little or it may show that Toshiba is simply a very small supplier of Frys

computers, and we may not have, therefore, adequate diversity by size among the three brands.

It may be, for instance, that both Toshiba and Gateway are small suppliers of Frys and that we don't have either a midsize or a large size supplier.

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Let me ask this question, then: If I understand what you are telling me, and I understand that you use the phrase your experts are telling you, and I have seen some of that, I gather, in the declaration from Mr. Orszag.

MR. SMALL: Orszag.

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you, Orszag. You have a methodology, and what I expect you have is an understanding of how to -- what information you need to be plugging in to whatever methodology you have; is that a fair statement?

MR. SMALL: Your Honor, the problem with

things as whether we have a small, medium, and large OEM that they are producing the data for. We need to know

3 whether we have adequate diversity by product type, by 4 product position, low end, mid range, and high end

5 computers, for example. There may be other factors 6

about time period and seasonality that have relevance to the adequacy of the data.

So it's not a simple question of the volume of the data produced. There are many other factors relating to diversity that our economists tell us that we need to satisfy in order to have an adequate sample. And we have serious concerns, as we have set out in our brief, about whether this latest proposal by Frys provides that diversity.

For example, there is no indication in the information that Frys has disclosed about its latest proposal whether the three brands that they offer were even carried by Frys in each of the years of the relevant time periods.

If there isn't that kind of coverage, then we would be missing diversity for particular years in which not all three brands were carried by Frys.

In addition, the only thing that Frys has told us about Toshiba computers is that Toshiba

Page 17

that basic premise is that it's very hard, in the abstract, to determine what's a representative sample. And we have told Frys this very thing, that we can suggest criteria that will be helpful to Frys in determining what might be representative sample, but until you have either seen the universe of data or seen a sufficient sample of the data or have sufficient information about the data, such as what are the different sizes of the different brands that Frys carries, meaning, you know, is one brand ten percent of their sales, another brand 30 percent, you have to have information about the universe before you can pick out

15 Another way to do it would be to get a 16 random sample of universe of available data where Frys 17 would give us, you know, it could be as little as every 18 10th transaction if it's truly a random sample. But for 19 any of those approaches to work, we have to have much 20

what is an appropriate subset for a sample.

more cooperation from Frys than we have been able to get 21 to date. They would have to disclose lots of

22 information to us about the universe of information they 23

have so that we could then draft an appropriate sample that could be as little at ten percent, but those kind

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(Pages 18 to 21)

Page 18 Page 20 Ĺ of ten percent numbers assume very important other 1 subpoena. 2 factors, like either it's a random sample or that we 2 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I believe that's 3 know we have covered the different dimensions of 3 the case. And if you are saying to me, We want to be 4 diversity that are important. 4 bound by what you do for purposes of the subpoena, then 5 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: And I think what 5 I think it is appropriate for me to say, You are bound 6 you have just said is certainly helpful to me because I 6 by agreement. 7 7 MR. STONE: That was what the parties had think you are measuring what I see to be what the Court 8 did in Linerboard antitrust litigation where the experts .8 out on the table. 9 were in a position to say, Here is our methodology, and 9 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay. 10 they were able to say, We have the data, the data is 10 MR. STONE: That we wanted you to make a 11 available to plug into that methodology. And I think 11 decision with respect to those two proposals, and that 12 what you are telling me is, although you know certain 12 this was not a situation where Class could later come data exists, I think what you are saying is you don't 13 13 back and seek more information. 14 know, with any degree of specificity, that the data that 14 And, Dan, I take it you agree with that? 15 15 your experts say you need is available even with the SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: In light of the way 16 three that you are proposing; is that fair? 16 you have just posed it, I do agree, Mr. Small, unless 17 17 MR. SMALL: I think our latest proposal, you have any other comment? 18 Your Honor, is not without risk. Because of our 18 MR. SMALL: No. That is our suggestion, 19 19 inability to get further information from Frys, we can't that if Your Honor is going to pick one of the two 20 say for sure whether we have covered every dimension of 20 proposals, that that would be a final resolution of the 21 21 diversity that's important, but we were willing to, you dispute with Frys. 22 know, because of what we do know about Frys' sales and 22 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: That's fine. Thank 23 purchases of computers, to assume, given a fairly 23 you. 24 24 MR. STONE: Now, with respect to what is comprehensive sample that would include IIP. Compac, Page 19 Page 21 Gateway, and Toshiba, that we would have sufficient 1 1 exactly at issue here, I think you can really, given the 2 2 coverage of the variables. concept that the Class has used, boil this dispute down 3 3 But when you ask to trim it so finely as to two key questions. One: Is the volume of 4 4 Frys is seeking to have us do, without sufficient information that Frys' proposal contains sufficient? 5 information about the universe, then we are truly in a 5 And, two: Is the information offered by Frys б 6 precarious position where we would really have no idea sufficiently diverse? 7 7 whether that sample would be appropriate and And I think that, based on the record before 8 8 representative and adequate. Your Honor, both of those questions can be answered in SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay. Thank you 9 9 the affirmative. And I take it, from Dan's discussion, 10 MR. SMALL: Surc. 10 that there really isn't a dispute that Class has said 11 11 MR. STONE: Robert Stone for Frys. that ten percent volume is the threshold for statistical 12 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Yes, please, 12 significance, and the volume of data that Frys is 13 Mr. Stone. 13 offering in proposal three represents 13 percent of 14 MR. STONE: The first issue I want to 14 Frys' total computer sales for the period 2000 to 2007. 15 address is the scope of what we have asked Your Honor to 15 So, I think in terms of volume, there really 16 do today, which was by agreement of the parties. 1.6 isn't an issue anymore. 17 17 And, essentially, we are in a baseball With respect to diversity, I think that the 18 arbitration situation where we have asked you to choose 18 information that Frys has submitted to Your Honor 19 between the two proposals, proposal one and proposal 1.9 demonstrates that we have also satisfied the diversity 20 20 criteria. If you look at Mr. Orszag's declaration --21 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Right. 21 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I have it right in 2.2 22 MR. STONE: And, you know, listening to Dan, my hand because I suspected you wanted to be talking 23 23 I think he agrees with this, that does resolve this about that and I assume we are talking about the August 24 dispute between the parties with respect to the Class 24

7 (Pages 22 to 25)

Page 22 Page 24 MR. STONE: We are, indeed, Your Honor, the 1 1 five of the second declaration of Mr. Orszag. 2 second declaration of Jonathan Orszag. No where does he 2 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you. Why 3 say that, for diversity, you need to have some magic 3 don't you talk to me about that a bit, please. 4 number of multiple vendors. In this case, there are 4 MR. SMALL: Sure. In the last sentence of 5 multiple vendors. There are three vendors that Frys has 5 that paragraph, it says, "I understand the sample of б identified as being willing to produce data concerning. three OEMs was selected to encompass Frys' largest 6 7 Mr. Orszag does talk about there needing to 7 computer supplier and a medium and small supplier such 8 be some diversity in terms of product offerings, and I 8 that Class plaintiffs would be able to capture economic 9 think there was a concern that he had expressed in 9 differences, if any, due to firm size that may affect 10 the results of their Class certification and damages connection with his declaration about not having 10 11 sufficient desktop sales. 11 analysis." 12 Well, with the proposal that Frys has on the 1.2 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Yes. 13 table, there is a diversity between product offerings 13 MR. SMALL: So there is a clear statement by 14 because the vendors identified sell both lap tops and 14 our expert that it's not just any three OEMs, that it's important that the three OEMs be a large, and we are 15 desk tops. Toshiba has substantial lap top sales 15 16 throughout the period, and eMachines - and we have 16 suggesting the largest computer supplier of Frys, and 17 identified this in our submission, Your Honor --17 the medium and small supplier so that we can capture the 18 eMachines had substantial desktop sales, and, in fact, 18 economic differences that may result from differences in 19 19 for two of the years, it was the No. I vendor in terms firm size, and that those differences are important not 20 of total volume, 20 just for the ultimate damages question but also for the 21 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Well, let me ask 21 Class certification analysis. 22 you to pause there for a moment because the language of 22 Your Honor, if I can back up for a second. 23 the declaration refers to, and you referred to some of 23 I do want to come back to this issue of whether the 24 these, desktop, lap top, notebooks, and tablets. Are 24 latest proposal by Frys meets even the minimum needs Page 23 Page 25 you telling me that, with respect to the proposal that we have for data for Class certification purposes 1 2 numbered three --2 let alone the merits. 3 MR. STONE: Yes. 3 The whole question of what the minimum 4 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: - that, by virtue 4 needed in this case is by Class plaintiffs is a very 5 of that proposal, each of those categories would be 5 different question from whether Frys' data are relevant. б representative? 6 And we have sort of been - we have been 7 7 MR. STONE: Certainly desktop and notebook. discussing this issue based on the assumption that 8 Tablet, I think, is a much smaller percentage of the 8 plaintiffs are not entitled to what's relevant but only 9 total sales. 9 to what is the minimum that they need for some 10 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay. 10 particular purpose. 11 MR. STONE: So, in terms of, you know, the 11 SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: And I understand 12 question of what is needed and the need that Class 12 that as well. 13 plaintiffs has demonstrated and acknowledged repeatedly 13 MR. SMALL: Yes. And we get there because 14 I think that Frys, with its current offering, satisfies 14 Frys throws out this term "trade secret," and I would 15 all of the conditions that Class plaintiffs has 15 suggest very strongly, Your Honor, that it's not enough identified. 16 16 just for Frys to invoke that term to then convert this 17 MR. SMALL: Your Honor, may I respond? 17 from what is ordinarily the discussion, which is: Are 18. SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Yes, please. And, 18 these data relevant, and if they are, is it unduly 19 if you will, direct me, if I will, I don't know whether 19 burdensome to produce them? 20 20 it was -- I should remember this, just give me one SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I think, at this moment, please -- I am looking for the reference in the 21 21 stage of where we are, and that was part of the reason 22 declaration to OEMs that would represent small, medium, 22 for my call to your colleagues here at the local Bar. 23 and large --23 was to assure myself that I wasn't going to be looking

at three issues like that. So I am not focused on the

MR. SMALL: Your Honor, that's at paragraph

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8 (Pages 26 to 29)

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Page 26
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                                                                       that's one basic piece of information they have not
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       issue of whether the information, as you are presently
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       sceking it, is a trade secret. In my comments teeing up
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                                                                       provided to the Court.
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       our conversation, I hope I didn't suggest that. If I
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                                                                               The second is they have never advised the
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       did, I didn't intend to. And I understand your comment.
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                                                                       Court as to how their lap top sales compare to their
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              MR. SMALL: What I was saying is the reason
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                                                                       desktop sales. That is a very important piece of
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       that the issue of what the standard is to be applied
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                                                                       information that the only thing that they have told the
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       here is important to the discussion Your Honor is
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                                                                       Court about the volume of their Toshiba sales is that
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       focusing us on is because our -- we should not, in my
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                                                                       it's at least ten percent of their lap top sales.
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       view, be required to even explain what the minimum needs 9
                                                                       Unless we know whether their lap top sales are a
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       of the Class are; in other words --
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                                                                       significant portion of their overall computer sales, we
              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: I do understand
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                                                                       don't know whether they carry a significant amount of
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       that.
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                                                                       Toshiba computers.
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              MR. SMALL: Yes. And, so, that's our reason
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       for saying that even the small sample that we seek
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                                                                       they never tell us, anywhere, whether the three brands
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       through our last proposal is easily justified as being
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                                                                       that they were proposing to produce, Toshiba, Gateway,
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       relevant to our case and not unduly burdensome to Frys.
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                                                                       and eMachines, constitute sellers to Frys that are a
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       In fact, they don't argue otherwise. So, the standard
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                                                                       large, and, preferably, their largest supplier, a medium
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       to be applied here is very important.
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                                                                       supplier, and a small supplier. We could not have made
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              But let me get back to what Your Honor was
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                                                                       it more clear and our economist could not have made it
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       focusing on.
                                                                       more clear that it's important to have that kind of
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              MR. STONE: Could I just address the trade
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                                                                       diversity in size. And we don't know whether this
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       secret issue briefly?
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                                                                       latest proposal provides that.
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              MR. SMALL: Your Honor, I'd like to be able
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                                                                              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay.
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       to finish without Mr. Stone jumping into what I thought
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                                                                              MR. SMALL: Thank you, Your Honor.
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       was going to be argued here with plaintiff's motion.
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                                                                              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Thank you.
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              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Please do.
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                                                                       Mr. Stone, please.
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              MR. STONE: I apologize.
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                                                                              MR. STONE: Thank you, Your Honor. Just
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              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Mr. Small, go
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                                                                       briefly on the trade secret point, frankly, we were
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                                                                       surprised by the way Class had raised the issue just
       ahead, please.
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              MR. SMALL: Thank you, Your Honor,
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                                                                       because we thought it was an issue that had already been
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              So, on the issue that Your Honor was
                                                                       resolved and that Your Honor had previously addressed in
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       focusing on, it is Frys' burden, at a minimum, if it is
                                                                       the context of a protective order.
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                                                                              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Exactly.
      going to come forward with the new proposal, which it
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       did in its brief, to establish that it meets even the
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                                                                              MR. STONE: And, so, for us, you know, we
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       minimum requirements that the plaintiffs need, assuming
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                                                                       just viewed it as a dead issue, although one that, you
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      that's appropriate standard here, and when I was first
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                                                                       know, in some respects still has some bearing on the
      talking with Your Honor on this call, I pointed out
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                                                                       decision here today, Frys' non-party status also has
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      three specific problems with the lack of disclosure that
                                                                       some bearing on the standard for how much information
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      Frys has made about its latest proposal.
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                                                                       should be produced, and, I think, again, that spins on
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              It has still not represented to the
                                                                       Class plaintiffs' demonstrated need, and what we have
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      plaintiffs or to this Court whether the three brands
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                                                                       tried to do, through our opposition brief, is meet the
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      that it's now proposing to produce were carried each
                                                                       need which is called out for in Class plaintiffs'
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      year by Frys during the relevant time period.
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                                                                      opening brief and the declaration of Mr. Orszag.
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             If they can't make that representation or
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                                                                              SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay. Thank you
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      it's not the case that they were carried in each of
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      those years, then there is an obvious and clear problem
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                                                                      hear your comments. At this juncture, I am provided
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      with their proposal, which is that we will not have
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      three OEMs for each of the years in question. So,
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                                                                      or one of the plaintiffs' experts says that the Class
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(Pages 30 to 33)

Page 32

Page 30

- Ţ plaintiffs need for purposes of both Class certification.
- 2 and for facts that they would need to develop to prove
- 3 their ultimate case were they to be certified. And
- À focusing not necessarily on each of the three areas that
- 5 Mr. Small opened his comments with to me, or the ones he
- É just finished with, I simply want to focus on what
- 7 Mr. Orszag says at paragraph five of his second
- 8 declaration, and, that is, from his perspective, a
- 9 sample of three OEMs representing what he understood to
- 10 be Frys' largest computer supplier, a medium supplier,
- 11 and a small supplier, he is saving that that is
- 12 important, I don't think he has to go so far as to say
- 13 "necessary," but he says, "would be able to capture 14
- economic differences, if any, due to firm size, and that 15 may affect the results of their Class certification and

16 damage analysis." 17

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I am satisfied that the standard is one of relevance. I understand that Frys is a third party. I understand that when it comes to any consideration of burden to a third party, I don't think this record focuses on burden other than to say, We are a third party and there is a burden. I don't mean that to slight what you have said to me thus far, but I don't

see that this record supports the burden.

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SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay. Then let m see if I can -

MR. STONE: And this would be in the form, then, of something you would then have the recommendation for the --

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: What I'd like you to do is I am going to ask the Class to prepare the draft for your review. If you can approve to the form, that's great; if you can't, then give me your concerns via a red-lined and/or a document describing what the concerns are with the form that's proposed by the Class. I am expecting that there will be discussions with respect to costs and burden, and, hopefully, that will be part of what you forward to me. If it's not, I would expect that there would be a further application for me to consider.

Let me talk about time frame of getting the document to me and propose also when you would expect that Frys would comply, in terms of the number of days from when my order is either a final order or when Judge Farnan has the opportunity to do anything that you request him to do and it becomes his final order.

MR. STONE: I propose that we have an

Page 31

I am also satisfied, for the other reasons that Mr. Small suggests, that the - it is appropriate to pick the alternative that the Class plaintiffs offered on July the 18th of 2007.

Having done that, I think it's important todiscuss what, if anything, you want me to be doing with respect to the burden of it all, whether you still intend to have your own discussion about what responsibility the Class will either assume -- will assume by agreement or whether there is going to be further application to me to make that judgment?

I am hoping that you can resolve that yourselves, but I am also certainly -- I won't shy away from making some judgment with respect to that.

MR. SMALL: Your Honor, I do think it would be a good idea for us to sit down with Frys, in light of your ruling, and discuss the cost sharing issue. And I think we could then either propose a proposed order that 18 addressed that, in addition to the other aspects of your ruling, or, if we can't reach agreement, we could, I guess, deal with the issue before Your Honor at an appropriate time.

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Mr. Stone. MR. STONE: We don't have any objection to Page 33

opportunity to discuss this issue with our client before we propose a date.

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: That's fine, I am happy to permit that to occur. I do want some idea of closure so I can have some sense as to when I am going to be seeing your work with respect to the form of order at least.

MR. SMALL: Your Honor, I have no problem with Mr. Stone conferring with his client. What I do think makes sense, to make sure we keep on a good schedule here, is at least set a date for us to get back to you about a schedule for completing this process.

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay. And any proposal with respect to that date?

MR. SMALL: It seems like we could do it in a couple of days. I don't know if that's a problem -

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: There is a holiday that may interfere with, not interfere, but there is a holiday that may impact on some work schedules this wee on Thursday, so I would -- Mr. Stone, any problem with Monday, close of business?

MR. STONE: No. I think that's fine, Your Honor.

SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Okay, Then I will

10 (Pages 34 to 35)

1	Page 34	
1	look for something from you Monday, close of business.	2 ·- #
2	I don't think there is a need to schedule a	High the state of
3	further teleconference. Does anyone disagree at this	
4	time?	
5	MR. SMALL: No, Your Honor.	
6	MR. STONE: No, Your Honor.	, .
- 7	SPECIAL MASTER POPPITI: Then I will look	
8	for something close of business on Monday. Thank you	
9	all very much.	er - e 4 4
10	(The teleconference was concluded at 3:21	. ·
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1 2	CERTIFICATE	
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	CERTIFICATE	
2 3 4	CERTIFICATE STATE OF DELAWARE: : NEW CASTLE COUNTY: I, Rence A. Meyers, a Registered Professional	
3 4 5	CERTIFICATE STATE OF DELAWARE: NEW CASTLE COUNTY: I, Renee A. Meyers, a Registered Professional Reporter, within and for the County and State aforesaid,	
3 4 5 6	CERTIFICATE STATE OF DELAWARE: : NEW CASTLE COUNTY: I, Renee A. Meyers, a Registered Professional Reporter, within and for the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the foregoing teleconference was	
2 3 4 5 7	CERTIFICATE STATE OF DELAWARE: : NEW CASTLE COUNTY: I, Rence A. Meyers, a Registered Professional Reporter, within and for the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the foregoing teleconference was taken before me, pursuant to notice, at the time and	
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,				Page
A : 1-	4:10	12:6,7,10	brought 8:20	12:17 13:1,3
able 9:20 17:20	and/or 32;11	August 5:1,12	12:6,7,10	13:10 24:10,21
18:10 24:8	Angeles 1:18	21:23	bucket 12:4	25:1 30:1,15
26:23 30:13	2:23	available 17:16	burden 13:5	35:20
abstract 17:3	answered 21:8	18:11,15		certified 11:1
accounted 16:1	antitrust 9:9	Ayenue 1:18	30:22,24 31:7	12:13,14/30:3
achieving 13:1,2	18:8	2:12	32:14	certify 35:6
acknowledged	anymore 21:16	aware 7:4	burdensome	choose 19:18
23:13	apologize 27:3	A.D 35:15	25:19 26:16	Circuit 8:23 9:5
action 1:5 35:13	APPEARANC	American state of the state of	business 33:21	12:14,24
actual 13:5	1:15.2:1	 	34:1,8	Civil 1:5
addition 10:22	application	back 20:13	B-o-g-o-s-i-a	Class 2:10,14,17
14:19 15:23	31:11.32:16	24:22,23 26:19	8:24	3:2,4,7,10 5:5
31:19	applied 26:6,18	33:11	in-7,040-00,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,	5:9,19.7:6,7
additional 11:21	approaches	backdrop 5:14	C	9:7,7,15,17
address 5:22	17:19	Bar 25:22	C35:1,1	10:4 11:1,1,10
10:7 11:15	appropriate	baseball 19:17	California 1:18	11:16,17,20,21
19:15 26:21	17:14,23 19:7	based 21:7 25:7	2:16,23	12:3,8,9,13,13
addressed 6:16	20:5 27:12	basic 17:2 28:1	call 3:22 25:22	12:24 13:1,2,3
29:7 31:19	31:2,22	bearing 29:12	27:13	13:10,22 14:3
addresses 5:24	approve 32:9	29:14	called 29:18	19:24 20:12
adequacy 15:7	approximately	beginning 1:11	capture 24:8,17	21:2,10 23:12
adequate 14:2	1:12	14:1	30:13	23:15 24:8,10
14:20 15:3,11	arbitration	behalf 5:9	carried 15:18,22	24:21 25:1,4
16:9 19:8	19:18	believe 7:10	27:18,21	26:10 29:5,16
ADVANCED	areas 30:4	14:12 20:2	carries 17:11	29:18,24 30:1
1:4	argue 26:17	believes 11:17	carry 28:11	30:15.31:3,9
advised 28:3	argued 27:1	better 7:5	case 8:8,11,20	32:8,12
affect 24:9 30:15	ARSHT 2:18	beyond 7:23	8:21,24 9:2,8	Clayton 2:9 3:3
affiliated 1:23	asked 4:20 7:24	11:5	11:3 12:3	clear 5:8 24:13
affirmative 21:9	8:3 14:7 19:15	bifurcated 13:13	13:13,16 20:3	27:22 28:19,20
aforesaid 35:5	19:18	bit 7:23 24:3	22:4 25:4	client 33:1,9
afternoon 4:9,18	asking 7:20 8:5	Blank 1:10	26:16 27:21	close 33:21 34:1
agree 20:14,16	11:15	Bogosia 8:24 9:2	30:3	34:8
agreement 9:23	aspects 31:19	9:5,11	cases 8:15 12:6	closure 33:5
19:16 20:6	assist 10:18	boil 21.2	12:10,14	Cohen 2:11 3:7
31:10,20	assisting 8:2	bound 20:4,5	CASTLE 35:3	colleagues 25:22
agrees 19:23	assume 13:4	brand 17:11,12	categories 23:5	come 7:14 20:12
ahead 4:15 27:5	18:1,23 21:23	brands 15:17,22	certain 18:12	24:23 27:9
alternative 31:3	31:9,10	16:10 17:10	certainly 6:6 7:4	comes 30:19
AMD 1:19 2:4	assuming 27:11	27:17 28:14	7:16 13:13	coming 9:15.16
4:3,6	assumption	brief 14:11,12	18:6 23:7	comment 20:17
amount 28:11	10:24 25:7	15:13 27:10	29:21 31:13	26:4
analysis 24:11	assure 25:23	29:17,19	certification 7:8	comments 11:6
24:21 30:16	Athey 2:9 3:3,4	briefly 26:22	9:7,17 10:24	11:15 26:2
Anderson 2:5	attention 8:21	29:4	11:17,21 12:9	29:22 30:5
ARIMUI SUIL Z.O	and the second s	e Maring general in pagase.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Super a destina ANSO
and a because the reference transfer and an expression of		1	1	

Page 2

rage z				
Compac 5:17	Continued 2:1	Dan 3:6 5:18	5:3 8:1,6	21:17,19 22:3
6:1,2 18:24	contrary 12:18	11:9 19:22	determine 17:3	22:8,13 28:21
compare 28:4	conversation	20:14	determining	document 5:6
completely	4:23 9:14 26:3	DANIEL 2:12	17:6	32:11,19
13:24	convert 25:16	Dan's 21:9	develop 30:2	doing 5:7 31:6
completing	cooperation	data 5:23 11:16	DEVICES 1:4	dollar 13:5
33:12	17:20	11:21 13:15,21	differences 24:9	draft 17:23 32:9
comply 32:20	Corbett 1:21,23	14:9,17,20	24:18,18,19	due 24:9 30:14
comprehensive	Corp 9:1	15:2,7,9 17:7,8	30:14	D.C 2:13
18:24	Corporation 1:7	17:9,16 18:10	different 12:4,4	Sales and a sales of the sales
computer 16:7	9:9	18:10,13,14	17:10,10 18:3	E
21:14 24:7,16	correct 5:17	21:12 22:6	25:5	E 35:1,1
28:10 30:10	10:1	25:1,5,18	differently	earlier 4:22 7:11
computers 6:19	correctly 5:11	date 5:11 17:21	13:18	early 7:9
15:5,24 16:9	5:15 9:22 35:8	33:2,11,14	dimension 18:20	easily 26:15
18:23 28:12	correspondence	dated 4:24	dimensions	economic 24:8
computer-aided	4:24 5:4 7:10	day 35:15	14:21-18:3	24:18 30:14
35:10	7:11	days 32:20 33:16	direct 23:19	economist 28:19
concept 21:2	CORROON 2:5	DE 1:22 2:3,6,10	directed 4:24	economists
concern 22:9	cost 31:17	dead 29:11	directly 8:9	14:14 15:10
concerning 22:6	costs 32:14	deal 31:21	disagree 34:3	effectively 5:24
concerns 15:12	Cottrell 2:2 4:2	decision 20:11	disclose 17:21	either 8:17 9:15
32:10,12	4:3	29:13	disclosed 15:16	12:6,12 16:13
concluded 34:10	counsel 4:23 8:8	declaration 5:9	disclosure 27:14	17:7 18:2
conditions 23:15	35:12	5:11,12,13,22	discovery 8:7,9	29:23 31:9,18
confer 8:2	County 35:3,5	6:6 16:18	11:2 13:12	32:21
conferring 33:9	couple 13:11	21:20 22:2,10	discuss 6:5,24	Electronics 2:20
confers 7:9 9:19	33:16	22:23 23:22	11:24 31:6,17	2:23
10:17	course 10:24	24:1 29:19	33:1	ELLIOTT 2:8
CONFIDENT	13:12	30:8	discussing 25:7	eMachines 6:18
1:1	Court 1:2,24 8:5	Defendant 1:8	discussion 4:18	22:16,18 28:16
confusion 4:19	18:7 27:17	degree 4:19	7:17 8:23 9:18	Emanuel 2:21
connection	28:2,4,7	18:14	11:7 21:9	3:16,20
22:10	coverage 15:20	Dclaware 1:3,11	25:17 26:7	encompass 24:6
consider 32:17	19:2	2:19 35:2	31:8	entitled 25:8
consideration	covered 14:20	demonstrated	discussions 7:5	ESQ 1:17,17 2:2
30:19	18:3,20	23:13 29:16	32:13	2:5,9,12,15,18
constitute 16:4	criteria 17:5	demonstrates	dispute 10:19	2:21,22
28:16	21:20	21:19	19:24 20:21	essentially 19:17
constitutes 7:22	current 23:14	described 13:7	21:2,10	establish 27:10
Container 9:9	currently 7:20	describing 32:11	DISTRICT 1:2	exactly 21:1
contains 21:4		desk 16:5 22:15	1:3	29:9
contemplated		desktop 22:11	diverse 21:6	examining 7:21
13:6	damage 30:16	22:18,24 23:7	diversity 14:21	example 15:5,15
context 8:1 12:9	damages 24:10	28:5	15:3,10,14,21	exist 8:18
29:8	24:20	determination	16:10 18:4,21	exists 18:13
				;

Dann	
raye	

				Page
expect 4:13 8:18	3:9	21:18:22:5,12	hand 21:22	identified 22:6
9:17 12:23	firm 24:9,19	23:14 24:6,16	35:15	22:14,17 23:16
16:21 32:16,19	30:14	24:24 25:5,14	happy 33:4	III 2:2
expected 4:19	first 13:12 19:14	25:16 26:16	hard 17:2	immediate 9:16
7:6	27:12 29:23	27:8,15,19	HAUSFELD	impact 33:19
expecting 32:13	fit 7:14	28:16.29:13	2:11	import 11:14
expert 7:14	five 24:1 30:7	30:10,18 31:16	hear 29:22	important 7:24
24:14	Floor 2:6,16,22	32:20	help 6:14,23	9:4,13 18:1,4
experts 7:14	focus 4:18 14:4	fundamentally	11:6	18:21 24:15.19
16:17 18:8,15	14:5 30:6	28:13	helpful 17:5	26:7,18 28:5
29:24	focused 7:6 9:14	further 18:19	18:6 29:21	28:20 30:12
Expires 35:20	25:24	31:11 32:16	helping 4:17	31:5
explain 26:9	focuses 8:9	34:3	high 15:4	inability 18:19
expressed 22:9	30:21		hold 6:24	include 18:24
The state of the s	focusing 26:8,20	G	holiday 33:17,19	indicated 35:8
F	27:8-30:4	Gateway 6:3,19	Honor 3:3,6,15	indication 15:15
F 9:1 35:1	following 9:5	16:12 19:1	4:2,5,9-5:18	information
fact 4:24 6:9	foregoing 35:6	28:15	6:12 10:3,13	5:16 7:19,22
9:20 11:2	35:11	gather 16:18	11:9,13,19	12:5,21 13:6
22:18 26:17	form 32:4,9,12	gathering 13:5	13:9,17,19	15:16 16:22
factors 15:5,9	33:6	getting 32:18	14:10,12 17:1	17:9,13,22,22
18:2	formula 7:14	give 10:16 12:22	18:18 19:15	18:19 19:5
facts 8:17,18	forward 27:9	17:17 23:20	20:19 21:8,18	20:13 21:4,5
30:2	32:15	32:10	22:1,17 23:17	21:18 26:1
fair 13:8 16:24	found 8:10	given 13:14	23:24 24:22	28:1,6 29:14
18:16	frame 4:17 11:6	18:23 21:1	25:15 26:7,19	informed 7:5
fairly 18:23	32:18	giving 14:7	26:23 27:6,7	8:11,17
far 5:17.30:12	Francisco 2:16	go 4:15 27:4	27:13 28:24	instance 16:11
30:23	frankly 29:4	30:12	29:3,7 31:15	Intel 1:7 2:7
Farnan 10:21	Fred 4:3	going 6:5,7 7:21	31:21 33:8,23	4:10,12
32:22	FREDERICK	8:14 10:17,21	34:5,6	intend 3:24 26:4
feel 11:4	2:2	10:22 13:1	HONOROAB	31:8
felt 6:10	Frys 2:20,23	20:19 25:23	1:14	intended 6:7
Fetzer 1:24	3:12,18 4:24	27:1,9 31:10	hope 5:10 11:6	interested 35:13
Figueroa 2:22	5:5,15,23 6:16	32:8 33:5	26:3	interfere 33:18
filed 5:9 6:6	7:10,18 8:12	good 4:9,16	hopefully 32:14	33:18
final 20:20 32:21	8:20 9:16,22	31:16 33:10	hoping 31:12	interim 11:19
32:23	9:24 10:10,23	Graham 2:18	Horwitz 2:5 4:9	invoke 25:16
finding 4:21 8:3	11:21-14:6,11	3:13,13	4:10,13,15	issue 5:22 9:6
fine 4:1 20:22	14:17 15:13,16	great 32:10	HP 5:16,23 6:1,3	19:14 21:1,16
33:3,22	15:18,22,23	grounding 8:4	18:24	24:23 25:7
finely 19:3	16:1,4,5,8,12	guess 4:22 10:6	hump 8:13	26:1,6,22.27:7
FINGER 2:2	17:4,5,10,16	31:21		29:5,6,11
finish 26:24	17:20 18:19,22	guidance 10:18		31:17,21 33:1
finished 30:6	19:4,11 20:21	Gulf 9:1	idea 19:6 31:16	issues 8:9-25:24
Finkelstein 2:15	21:4,5,12,14	Hereary and the same and the manufacture	33:4	*
	1 100 100 100 1	H	4.5	*** I

Page 4

734: 14m; 1 m	23:23 24:15	magic 22:3	Meyers 1:10	danatikataka
J 1:14 2:9	28:17	making 4:20 5:3		negotiations 10:12
1.7	largest 24:6,16	11:14 31:14	MICHAEL 2:21	neither 35:12
January 35:20	28:17 30:10	Market 1:11,22	MICRO 1:4	The first trace and a second
Jennifer 1:17	Laser 1:17 4:5.5		mid 15:4	never 6:15 28:3
4:5	lastly 28:13	Mary 2:18 3:13		28:14
joining 3:22	latest 6:16 15:13	Master 1:14 3:1	midsize 16:13 Mike 3:19	new 2:12 27:9
4:14	15:16 18:17	1		35:3
Jonathan 5:9	24:24 27:15	3:5,8,11,14,17	Milstein 2:11	NICHOLS 2:18
22:2	28:22	3:21 4:4,7,11 4:16 5:20 6:4	3:7	non-party 29:13
JONES 2:8	law 8:8,11		mindful 7:16	normal 13:14
Judge 10:21	LAYTON 2:2	6:13,17,20,22	minimum 24:24	North 1:11,22
32:21	let's 10:17 11:23	7:3 8:2 10:5,8	25:3,9 26:9	2:6,19
judgment 31:11	light 6:8 7:23	10:10,14,19	27:8,11	Notary 1:10
31:14	20:15-31:16	11:12,22 13:23	minutes 11:24	note 5:13 8:7 9:5
July 31:4	1	14:4,15,23	missing 15:21	notebook 23:7
jumping 26:24	Linda 1:17 4:6	16:14,20 18:5	moment 22:22	notebooks 22:24
juncture 29:22	Linerboard 9:8	19:9,12,21	23:21	noted 3:23 4:1
justified 26:15	9:10 18:8	20:2,9,15,22	Monday 33:21	8:22
K:	listed 14:21	21:21 22:21	34:1,8	notice 1:10 35:7
	listening 19:22	23:4,10,18	Morris 2:18	number 14:13
keep 33:10	literal 11:2	24:2,12 25:11	8:22	22:4 32:20
key 21:3	litigation 7:7 9:9	25:20 26:11	motion 27:1	numbered 23:2
kin 35:12	18:8	27:2,4 28:23	multiple 22:4,5	numbers 18:1
kind 15:20 17:24	little 7:23 16:7	29:1,9,20	MYERS 1:16	N.W 2:12
28:20	17:17,24	31:23 32:2,7	N L	TALEN STRUCTO STRUCTURE ST
King 2:9	LLP 1:11	33:3,13,17,24	INCIDED THE MANAGERICA SPECIAL PROPERTY.	0.
know 6:4 11:7	local 4:23 25:22	34:7	name 8:24	objection 31:24
14:2,24,24	located 5:6	materials 5:2	nature 11:18	observation 7:4
15:2 16:3,3	longer 6:9	matter 1:9 7:12	necessarily 30:4	observations
17:11,17 18:3	look 4:20 5:21	mean 11:6,23	necessary 30:13	6:23
18:12,14,22,22	9:6,23 13:9	30:22	need 3:24 7:19	obvious 27:22
19:22 23:11,19	21:20 34:1,7	meaning 17:11	8:12,13 9:14	occur 33:4
28:9,11,21	looking 8:20	measuring 18:7	9:16,17,22	OEM 15:1
29:10,12 33:16	12:2 23:21	medium 15:1	12:3 14:3,20	OEMs 14:9
knowing 12:23	25:23	23:22 24:7,17	14:24 15:2,11	23:22 24:6,14
12:24	Los 1:18 2:23	28:17 30:10	16:22 18:15	24:15 27:24
	lots 17:21	meet 7:9 8:2	22:3 23:12	30:9
L	LOUGHRAN	9:19 10:17	25:9 27:11	offer 15:17
L 2:2,5	2:15	29:17	29:16,18 30:1	offered 5:23
lack 27:14	low 15:4	meets 9:16 24:24	30:2 34:2	21:5 31:4
language 8:14	L-i-n-e-r-b-o	27:10	needed 7:6,13	offering 21:13
22:22	9:8	merits 25:2	12:15 23:12	23:14
Iap 16:1,4 22:14	No. of the second of the secon	methodology	25:4	offerings 22:8
22:15,24 28:4	M	8:13,15,17	nceding 22:7	22:13
28:8,9	M 5:9	16:21,23 18:9	nceds 11:17	offices 1:10
large 15:1 16:13	machine 35;9	18:11	24:24 26:9	off-the-record
	Figure 175, og 4-5 februaren 11. 11. 146 februaren 11. 11. 146 februaren 11. 11. 146 februaren 11. 146			

Page 5

				Page
ส์งาตั	10:00 01 01	2-1 5 0 1 1 1 4		1
4:23 Oil 9:1	12:20,21,21	3:1,5,8,11,14	problem 17:1	provided 8:8
	13:14 30:18,20	3:17,21 4:4,7	27:22 33:8,16	28:2 29:22
Okay 4:12,16 7:2 10:20 11:9	30:22 35:13	4:11,16 5:20	33:20	provides 15:14
	pause 22:22	6:4,13,17,20	problems 27:14	28:22
19:9.20:9	percent 7:15	6:22 7:3 10:5,8	proceed 11:11	proving 11:3
23:10 28:23	13:4 14:7,8,12	10:10,14 11:12	proceeding 8:6	Public 1:10
29:20 32:2	14:19 16:1,6	11:22 13:23	proceedings	purchases 18:23
33:13,24	17:11,12,24	14:4,15,23	12:12,22	purpose 5:2
ones 12:7 30:5	18:1 21:11,13	16:14,20 18:5	process 33:12	25:10
opened 30:5	28:8	19:9,12,21	produce 5:23	purposes 4:20
opening 29:19	percentage 16:6	20:2,9,15,22	22:6 25:19	7:7-8:4-10:19
opportunity 9:6	23.8	21:21 22:21	27:18 28:15	11:3,17 13:16
32:22 33:1	period 15:6 16:2	23:4,10,18	produced 15:9	20:4 25:1 30:1
opposition 29:17	21:14 22:16	24:2,12 25:11	29:15	pursuant 1:9
order 15:11 29:8	27:19	25:20 26:11	producing 15:2	35:7
31:18 32:21,21	periods 15:19	27:2,4 28:23	product 15:3,4	put 20:8
32:23 33:6	permit 33:4	29:1,9,20	22:8,13	P.L.L.C2:11
ordinarily 25:17	perspective 8:12	31:23-32:2,7	production 6:1	p.m 1:12 34:11
Orszag 5:10	10:11 12:2	33:3,13,17,24	13:15	minimum againing marada d
6:15 16:18,19	13:10 30:8	34:7	Professional	and the second s
16:20 22:2,7	Phillip 8:22	portion 16:4	1:10,21 35:4	question 5:24
24:1 29:19	phrase 16:16	28:10 m m ra	35;19	12:8 14:2 15:8
30:7	pick 17:13 20:19	posed 20:16	pronouncing	16:15 23:12
Orszag's 5:13,21	31.3	position 7:18	5:10	24:20 25:3,5
21:20	piece 28:1,5	10:16,20 11:2	proposal 5:5	27:24
outcome 35:13	Pine 2:16	14:6 15:4 18:9	6:10,16.8:4	questions 7:21
outlined 5:4	place 35:8	19:6	9:15 15:13,17	11:8 21:3,8
overall 16:6	plaintiffs 1:5 3:2	Potter 2:5 4:10	18:17 19:19,19	Quinn 2:21 3:16
28:10	3:4,7,10 10:4	Powell 2:21 3:19	21:4,13 22:12	3:19
O'Melveny 1:16	11:20 13:4,22	3:19	23:1,5 24:24	Ř.
4:6	14:3 23:13,1 <i>5</i>	precarious 19:6	26:15 27:9,15	R35:1
O-r-s-z-a-g 5:10	24:8 25:4,8	precise 8:14	27:23 28:22	raised 12:9 29:5
ъ	27:11,17 29:16	predicament	33:14	random 17:16
	29:18,24 30:1	10:15	proposals 5:3,4	17:18 18:2
pages 5:6	31:3	preferably 28:17	13:20 19:19	1
paragraph	plaintiff's 27:1	premise 17:2	20:11,20	range 15:4 reach 31:20
23:24 24:5	please 3:2,23	prepare 32:8	propose 31:18	1 18 18 18 18 18 18
30:7	11:12 19:12	preparing 7:17	32:19,24 33:2	reached 10:12
part 9:18 10:14	23:18,21 24:3	present 1:12	proposed 31:18	read 9:10
25:21 32:15	27:2,5 29:2	presented 13:19	32:12	reading 5:15
particular 15:21	plug 18:11	presently 26:1	proposing 5:15	really 10:20 19:6
25:10	plugging 16:23	preserve 11:19	18:16 27:18	21:1,10,15
parties 10:6	point 13:11 29:4	previously 29:7	28:15	29:21
19:16,24 20:7	pointed 14:10,18	pre-Class 12:16	protective 29:8	reason 8:19
parts 13:20	27:13	PRICKETT 2:8	prove 12:3 30:2	25:21 26:5,13
party 12:19,20	POPPITI 1:14	principles 6:21	provide 5:16	reasons 31:1
	****			recall 13:18
AND	THE THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE			

Page 6

recommendati 4:21 8:4 92:6 recommending 10:23 12:22 record 3:23 4:1 5:13 21:7 30:20,24 35:12 recorded 35:9 red-lined 32:11 reference 23:21 reference 24:21 regard 4:21 Regard 4:21 Registered 1:10 1:21 35:4,19 relating 15:10 23:1 31:7,14 30:18 23:1 31:7,14 30:18 25:1 12:24 35:15 refevence 25:25;8,18 26:16 27:19 relevant 15:19 relevant 15:19 relevant 15:19 relevant 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 32:9 resporter 1:10 35:5,19 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 Reporters 1:21 Rich 4:10 33:29 represent 4:8 23:29 represent 4:8 23:30:9 Rome 1:1 Reporters 1:21 Rich 2:10 Richard 2:5,15 represented 7:13 27:20 represent 4:8 3:9 Romer 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Reporters 12:13 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8	rage o	· · ·			
4:21 8:4 32:6 required 5:17 10:23 12:22 26:9 requirement 10:23 12:22 record 3:23 4:1 12:23 14:17 26:9 requirement 12:23 14:17 12:23 14:17 23:23:22 24:44 26:12 23:2 27:11 resolution 9:2T 16:47 17:17 selected 24:6 sell 22:14 sellers 28:16 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 26:14; 23:27 27:13 27:14 18:22 21:14 sellers 28:16 sell 22:14 sellers 28:16 s	recommendati	remire 19-10	ruling 11-10	26.14	16-10 17-1
10:23 12:22 26:9 S 26:27 Seen 7:10 12:5 Seected 24:6 Seected 24:6 Sell 22:14 Seected 24:6 Sell 22:14 Sells 16:5 Sells 16:13 Sells 16:5 Sell 22:14 Sells 16:5 Sell 22:14 Sells 16:5 Sell 22:14 Sells 16:5 Sell 22:14 Sells 16:5 Sells 16:13 Sells 16:13 Sells 16:5 Sells 16:13 Sells 16:5 Sells 16:13 Sells 16:1		,			i .
10:21,22 26:9 requirement 5:13 21:7 30:20,24 35:12 regulrements 27:11 resolution 9:21 10:12 20:20 19:23 31:12 referred 22:23 refers 22:23 regard 4:21 1:24 20:11,24 21:17 23:1 31:7,14 30:18 30:18 32:14 33:61.4 41:10 30:18 relevant 15:19 relevant 15:19 relevant 15:19 relevant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:5,19 result 24:18 repyresent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 represented 7:15 27:16 represented 7:15 27:1			31.17,20		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
requirement 12:23 14:17	-1		S	1	
12:23 14:17 30:20,24 35:12 7equirements 16:4,7 17:12 18:22 21:14 5ellected 24:6 5ell 22:14 27:6 28:18,24 27:	Al	1	1		
30:20,24 35:12 requirements 27:11 resolution 9:21 16:4,7 17:12 sell 22:14 seller 28:16 27:6 28:18,24 27:6 28		■			
recorded 35:9 red-lined 32:11 resolution 9:21 reference 23:21 reference 23:21 reference 23:21 reference 23:22 resolve 9:20	1		1		1
red-lined 32:11 reference 23:21 reference 32:23 refered 22:23 refered 22:23 regard 4:21 relating 15:10 relevance 15:6 30:18 20:11,24 21:17 respectively 5:6 respects 29:12 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 reluctant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repustedly 23:13 repy 14:12 Reporters 1:21 1:24 Reporters 1:20 1:24 Reporters 1:21 1:24 Reporters 1:20 1:24 Richard 2:5,15 3:9 Rodney 2:3 Registered 1:10,13 Respond 2:17 Resolving 10:19 17:14,16,18,23 13:15,38,15 33:5,10 33:5,10 33:5,10 33:5,10 33:5,10 33:5,10 33:5,10 33:11 35:15 Senience 24:4 September 1:11 Sampling 7:13 Saich 14:2,21 Sampling 7:13 Saich 12:17 Sandpiling 7:13 Saich 12:11 Sandpiling 7:13 Saich 12:12 Saich 12:13 Saich 12:12 Saich 12:13	1 7	1	1 .	and the second second	
reference 23:21 referred 22:23 referred 22:23 referred 22:23 regard 4:21 Registered 1:10 1:21 35:4,19 relating 15:10 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 relevant 15:19 respect 5:29:12 remember 23:20 Reneel 1:10 35:4 35:19 remember 23:20 Reneel 1:10 35:4 35:19 repy 14:12 repersent 1:21 repy 14:12 Reporters 1:21 1:24 Reporters 1:20 35:5,19 result 24:18 35:19 result 24:18 35:19 result 24:18 35:19 representation 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 10:5 11:20 10:10 20:20 11:23 3:1.2 11:24 Reporters 1:21 1:24 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Reporters 1:21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21:21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:23:23 Romer's 8:24:21 Rodney 2:3 Romer's 8:21,21 Resolved 29:7 If:14,16,18,23 Repettible 1:211 Samplie 14:2,18 September 1:11 Say:11 17:3,6,8 September 1:11 Say:11 17:3,6,8 September 1:11 Say:11 17:3,6,8 September 1:11 Say:11 17:3,6,8 Smith 1:174 Soricus 4:4 Soricus 4:4 Soricus 4:4 Soricus 5:4 Somith 1:174 Soricus 4:4 Soricus 4:4:5,23 Smith 1:13:3 Say:11:13 Say:13:13 Say:13:13:	1	1			4 7.
referenced 8:23 9:3 12:15 referred 22:23 regard 4:21 Registered 1:10 1:21 35:4,19 relevance 15:6 30:18 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 remember 23:20 37:5 19 remember 23:20 37:5 19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporters 1:21 1:24 reporters 1:21 1:24 reporters 1:21 1:24 representation 7:13 27:20 representation 7:13 27:20 representation 7:13 27:20 representation 7:13 27:20 represented 1:10 3:6 resolved 29:7 respect 29:12 res	1	1	1		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
9:3 12:15 referred 22:23 refers 22:23 refers 22:23 regard 4:21 Registered 1:10 1:21 35:4,19 relating 15:10 10:11,19:24 relevance 15:6 30:18 respect 5:8,16 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 reporters 1:21 1:24 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 repeatedly 23:13 result 24:18 results 24:10 30:15 repeatedly 23:13 result 24:18 results 24:10 30:15 repeatedly 23:13 result 24:18 result 24:10 30:11 subspicious 15:12 serious 15:12 serious 15:12 serious 15:12 set 15:12 33:11 sharing 31:17 show 12:11 sharing 31:17 shy 31:13 singlificance singlificant 16:3 singlificant sharing 31:17 shy 31:13 singlificant sharing 31:17 shy 31					
referred 22:23 referred 22:23 regard 4:21 resolving 10:19 respect 5:8,16 7:12 9:22 10:1 1:21 35:4,19 relevante 15:10 30:18 respect 19:10 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 relevante 12:19 respectively 5:6 respects 29:12 respond 23:17 relevante 12:19 respectively 5:6 respects 29:12 respond 23:17 relevante 12:19 31:9 relevante 12:19 respectively 5:6 respects 29:12 respond 23:17 responsibility 31:9 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 represent 14:8 23:2 Reporter 1:10 35:11 17:3,6,8 17:14,16,18,23 18:2,24+19:7 20:11,24 21:17 sampling 7:13 San 2:16 shorthand 35:9 show 12:18 16:7 significance 14:13 21:12 significante 16:3 28:10,11 significante 16:3 28:10,11 significant 16:3 30:11 significant 16:3 30:14 significant 16:3 30:11 significant 16:3 30:12 20:2,9,15,22 significant 16:3 30:11 significant 16:3 30:11 significant 16:3 30:11 30:12 30:13 30:13 30:13 30:13 30:13 30:13 30:	4	1 .		177	
refers 22:23 regard 4:21 respect 5:8,16 7:12 9:22 10:1 12:13 5:4,19 10:11 19:24 20:11,24 21:17 relevance 15:6 30:18 repertively 5:6 respect 5:8,18 respect 5:8,18 32:14 33:6,14 respectively 5:6 respect 23:12 respond 23:17 reluctant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 results 24:10 30:15 reply 14:12 represent 12:11 Reporters 1:21 1:24 representation 7:13 27:20 10:5 11:20 representative 17:3,6 19:8 23:26 representative 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 representating 30:9 representation 7:15 27:16 representating 30:9 representating 30:9 representation 3				The state of the s	
regard 4:21 Registered 1:10 1:21 35:4,19 relating 15:10 relevance 15:6 30:18 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 reluctant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporters 1:21 1:24 Reporters 1:21 1:24 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 29:2 representation 7:13 29:2 representative 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 represented 7:15 27:16 representing 30:9 respect 5:8,16 7:12 9:22 10:1 10:11 19:24 satisfied 21:19 30:17 31:1 satisfied 21:19 30:17 31:1 satisfied 21:19 30:17 31:1 satisfied 21:19 30:17 31:1 satisfied 21:19 shared 12:11 shared 12:11 sharing 31:17 shorthand 35:9 show 12:18 16:7 30:17 31:1 show 12:18 16:7 30:18 significance 14:13 21:12 significant 16:3 simply 16:8 30:6 simply 16:8 30:6 single 13:15 single 13:15 simply 16:8 30:6 single 13:15 significant 10:11,42 11:12 significance 14:13 21:12 significant 10:10,14,19 28:10,71 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 significant 10:10,14,19 28:10,71 30:17 30:1			The second secon	T	1
Registered 1:10 1:21 35:4,19 relating 15:10 relevance 15:6 30:18 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 releutant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 represent 14:8 23:22 representation relevantion reviewed 12:11 Rich 4:10 Reporters 1:21 1:24 represent 14:8 23:22 representation rich 6:17,20 right 6:17,2	1	1 7			
1:21 35:4,19 relating 15:10 relevance 15:6 30:18 30:18 22:14 33:6,14 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 reluctant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 represent 14:8 23:22 represent 14:8 23:22 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 representative 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 represented 7:15 27:16 representing 30:9 representing 30:9 representing 30:9 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21:10 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21:10 Romero 8:21:10 Romero 8:21:12 Romero 8:21:13	}		1		・ を乗り (整) として、
relating 15:10 relevance 15:6 30:18 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 review 5:1 9:8 32:9 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 Reporters 1:21 1:24 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 right 6:17,20 representative 11:15,23 19:21 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 represented Robert 2:22 represented 7:15 27:16 representing 30:9 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21 Romer	1 •	1		1	
relevance 15:6 30:18 relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 reluctant 12:19 reluctant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporters 1:21 Reporters 1:21 Reporters 1:21 1:24 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 represented 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 respected 7:15 27:16 representing 30:18 30:14 33:6,14 33:14 33:6,14 respectively 5:6 respect 29:12 respond 23:17 responsibility 30:17 31:1 satisfies 23:14 satisfy 14:17 responsibility 15:11 satisfies 23:14 satisfy 14:17 responsibility 15:11 30:11 saying 18:13 20:3 26:5,14 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 24:5 29:24 30:7,13 schedule 33:11 schedule 33:11 schedule 33:11 schedule 33:12 schedules 33:19 scope 19:15 seasonality 15:6 respected 20:11 responsibility responsibility 30:17 31:1 satisfies 23:14 satisfy 14:17 responsibility satisfies 23:14 satisfies 23:14 satisfies 23:14 satisfies 23:14 satisfies 23:14 satisfies 23:14 satisfy 14:17 responsibility 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 24:5 29:24 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 simply 16:8 30:6 isingle 13:15 single 13:15 sit 31:16 situation 13:14 19:18 20:12 sit 20:22 sit 20:22 representation 7:13 27:20 representation 7:13 27:20 representative 1:15:11 3:21 2:21 3:22 representative 1:30 1:31:32 2:32 represented respond 23:17 responsibility 30:11 satisfied 21:19 30:17 satisfies 23:14 satisfy 14:17 15:11 satisfiex 23:14 satisfy 14:17 satisfiex 23:14 satisfiex 23:	.1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		A few of the state of the	1 m
30:18	1	1 7			. I
relevant 15:19 16:2 25:5,8,18 26:16 27:19 reluctant 12:19 reluctant 12:19 reluctant 12:19 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 reviewed 12:11 35:5,19 reviewed 12:11 Reporters 1:21 1:24 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:13 27:20 7:15 27:16 represented 7:15 27:16 represented 7:15 27:16 represents 21:13 30:9 respectively 5:6 respects 29:12 respond 23:17 responsibility 31:9 responsibility 31:13 shy 31:13 shy 31:13 shy 31:13 significance 14:13 21:12 right 15:8 simply 16:8 30:6 single 13:15 sir 3:17 4:11 solic 14:1,10,16:3 10:10,14,19 11:12,22 13:23 14:1,13,13 28:10,11 simple 15:8 simply 16:8 30:6 single 13:15 sir 3:17 4:11 simple 15:8 simply 16:8 30:6 single 13:15 sir 3:17 4:11 20:2,9,15,22 21:21 22:21 siz 3:17 20:2,9,15,22 siz 16:10,13 24:4,15,23 20:2,9,15,22 siz 16:10,13 24:4,15,23 20:2,9,15,22 siz 16:10,13 24:9,19 28:21 30:14 19:18 20:12 30:14 23:4,10,18 24:4,15,23 20:2,9,15,22 siz 16:10,13 24:9,19 28:21 30:14 25:20 26:11 25:20 26:	1				1
16:2 25:5,8,18 respects 29:12 satisfies 23:14 significance 6:13,17,20,22 7:3 8:2 10:5,8 10:10,14,19 11:12,22 13:23 reluctant 12:19 respended 23:17 responsibility 15:11 saying 18:13 28:10,11 11:12,22 13:23 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 result 24:18 20:3 26:5,14 simple 15:8 10:10,14,19 repeatedly 23:13 results 24:10 30:15 says 8:11 9:2,2 simple 15:8 16:14,20 18:5 reply 14:12 review 5:1 9:8 32:9 30:7,13 sit 31:16 10:10,14,19 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 reviewed 12:11 schedule 33:11 sit 31:16 10:14,20 18:5 Reporters 1:21 Rich 4:10 33:12 34:2 schedule 33:19 sit ation 13:14 23:4,10,18 represent 14:8 23:22 right 6:17,20 second 5:12,22 sasonality 15:6 second 5:12,22 sight 30:23 24:29,19 28:21 27:2,4 28:23 23:20 risk 18:18 29:23 30:7 silight 30:23 33:3,13,17,24 29:23 30:7 secret 7:22 silight 30:23 silight 30:23 33:3,13,27,24 29:23 30:7 secret 7:22 <t< td=""><th>1</th><td>1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2</td><td>1</td><td>The second of the seco</td><td>1</td></t<>	1	1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1	The second of the seco	1
26:16 27:19 respond 23:17 respond 23:17 respond 23:17 responsibility 31:9 remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 results 24:10 30:15 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 reviews 5:1 9:8 32:9 reviewed 12:11 Reporters 1:21 1:24 represent 14:8 23:22 represent 14:5,23 19:21 24:22 28:3 represent 14:5,23 19:21 27:3,6 19:8 21:21 27:3,6 19:8 21:21 27:3 19:21 27:3,6 19:8 21:21 27:3 19:21 29:4 sector 3:15 19:11 Rodney 2:3 represents 21:13 Romer o 8:21,21 Romer o 8:		1 A N	1		I .
reluctant 12:19 responsibility 31:9 result 24:18 asying 18:13 20:3 26:5,14 30:11 saying 18:13 20:3 26:5,14 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 24:5 29:24 sir 3:17 4:11 20:2,9,15,22 schedule 33:11 32:9 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 rolls 14:15,23 19:21 27:3,6 19:8 23:6 represented 7:15 27:16 represent 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,22 Romero 8:2	/ Y' T	1 *			The second secon
remember 23:20 Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 result 24:18 repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 32:9 32:9 reviewed 12:11 Rich 4:10 33:12 34:2 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 rolls 14:15,23 19:21 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 represented 7:15 27:16 represent 12:12 Robert 2:22 30:9 reviewed 12:11 represented 7:15 27:16 represent 12:11 Robert 2:22 30:9 reviewed 12:11 represent 12:11 represent 14:8 23:9 reviewed 12:11 represent 14:8 23:29 representative 14:15,23 19:21 24:22 28:3 representative 17:3,6 19:8 23:20 representative 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 represented 7:15 27:16 represent 12:11 Robert 2:22 30:9 represent 2:21 represent 2:21 represent 2:21 represent 2:21 represent 3:21 repres		F 7 . 3.2		•	1
Renee 1:10 35:4 35:19 result 24:18 results 24:10 20:3 26:5,14 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 simple 15:8 single 13:15 sing	1		1		,
Tesults 24:10 30:11 says 8:11 9:2,2 24:5 29:24 30:7,13 30:15 review 5:1 9:8 30:7,13 simply 16:8 30:6 19:9,12,21 20:2,9,15,22 21:21 22:21 20:2,9,15,22 2	1	I see Con-		1	
repeatedly 23:13 reply 14:12 Reporter 1:10 35:5,19 Reporters 1:21 1:24 represent 14:8 23:22 representation 7:13 27:20 representative 17:3,6 19:8 23:6 represented Robert 2:22 7:15 27:16 7:			∄	1	1 "
reply 14:12 review 5:1 9:8 24:5 29:24 sir 3:17 4:11 20:2,9,15,22 Reporter 1:10 32:9 schedule 33:11 sit 31:16 21:21 22:21 Reporters 1:21 Rich 4:10 33:12 34:2 sit aution 13:14 23:4,10,18 Reporters 1:21 Rich 4:10 33:12 34:2 size 16:10,13 24:2,12 25:11 represent 14:8 3:9 RICHARDS 2:2 right 6:17,20 second 5:12,22 30:14 27:2,4 28:23 representative 17:3,6 19:8 14:15,23 19:21 24:22 28:3 slight 30:23 31:23 32:2,7 represented 7:15 27:16 risk 18:18 secret 7:22 secret 7:22 small 2:12 3:6,6 specific 27:14 represented 7:15 27:16 Rodney 2:3 see 10:17 18:7 10:9 11:9,10 11:16 specificity 18:14 representing 30:9 Rome 1:11 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 31:23 32:21 32:25	1	- 4/11			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Reporter 1:10 32:9 30:7,13 sit 31:16 21:21 22:21 35:5,19 Reporters 1:21 Rich 4:10 33:12 34:2 situation 13:14 23:4,10,18 1:24 Richard 2:5,15 schedule 33:19 size 16:10,13 24:2,12 25:11 represent 14:8 3:9 RICHARDS 2:2 schedules 33:19 24:9,19 28:21 25:20 26:11 representation 7:13 27:20 right 6:17,20 7:3 22:2 24:1 30:14 29:1,9,20 representative 17:3,6 19:8 14:15,23 19:21 24:22 28:3 31:23 32:2,7 23:6 risk 18:18 secret 7:22 5:18,18,21 34:7 represented 7:15 27:16 Robert 2:22 25:14 26:2,22 5:18,18,21 5:12:15,18,21 representing 30:9 Rome 1:11 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 5:12:13 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 5:15	1 - "				1 "
35:5,19 Reporters 1:21 reviewed 12:11 schedule 33:11 situation 13:14 23:4,10,18 1:24 Rich 4:10 Richard 2:5,15 33:12 34:2 schedules 33:19 size 16:10,13 24:2,12 25:11 represent 14:8 3:9 RICHARDS 2:2 scope 19:15 30:14 27:2,4 28:23 representation 7:13 27:20 right 6:17,20 7:3 22:2 24:1 sight 30:23 29:1,9,20 representative 17:3,6 19:8 21:21 29:23 30:7 slight 30:23 33:3,13,17,24 23:6 risk 18:18 29:23 30:7 secret 7:22 5:18,18,21 5:18,18,21 represented 7:15 27:16 3:15 19:11 29:4 5:18,18,21 5:22 7:2 10:3,6 representing 30:9 Rome 1:11 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 5quare 2:3 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 Romero 8:21,21 30:24 32:3 14:1,10,16,24 5quare 2:3 stage 7:7 8:6,7	1			1 114 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	I to the second
Reporters 1:21 Rich 4:10 33:12 34:2 19:18 20:12 24:2,12 25:11 represent 14:8 3:9 RICHARDS 2:2 seasonality 15:6 second 5:12,22 30:14 25:20 26:11 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:20 26:21 25:	1 -				1
1:24 Richard 2:5,15 schedules 33:19 size 16:10,13 25:20 26:11 23:22 RICHARDS 2:2 seasonality 15:6 30:14 29:1,9,20 7:13 27:20 10:5 11:20 7:3 22:2 24:1 slight 30:23 31:23 32:2,7 17:3,6 19:8 21:21 29:23 30:7 small 2:12 3:6,6 specific 27:14 17:5 27:16 representing 30:9 25:14 26:2,22 6:22 7:2 10:3,6 11:16 10:9 11:9,10 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 Square 2:3 10:5 11:20 30:24 32:3 5:18,18,21 34:7 20:23 30:7 30:22 22:2 5:18,18,21 32:21 20:23 30:7 30:24 32:3 5:18,18,21 32:21 20:1,9,20 31:23 32:2,7 33:3,13,17,24 34:7 34:7 34:7 30:14 34:7 34:7 30:21 30:22 22:2 30:7 30:14 34:7 34:7 30:21 30:22 22:2 30:7 30:14 31:23 32:2,7 30:23 31:16 <tr< td=""><th>1 1</th><td>1 4 1</td><td></td><td>Hall .</td><td></td></tr<>	1 1	1 4 1		Hall .	
represent 14:8 23:22	1		l '' ' ''		1
23:22 representation RICHARDS 2:2 right 6:17,20 seasonality 15:6 second 5:12,22 right 6:17,20 30:14 sizes 17:10 slight 30:23 s	l aa. ara# l	1		•	
representation right 6:17,20 second 5:12,22 sizes 17:10 31:23 32:2,7 7:13 27:20 10:5 11:20 7:3 22:2 24:1 slight 30:23 33:3,13,17,24 representative 14:15,23 19:21 24:22 28:3 slight 30:23 33:3,13,17,24 17:3,6 19:8 21:21 29:23 30:7 small 2:12 3:6,6 specific 27:14 23:6 risk 18:18 secret 7:22 5:18,18,21 specifically 6:15 7:15 27:16 3:15 19:11 29:4 6:22 7:2 10:3,6 specificity 18:14 representing Rodney 2:3 see 10:17 18:7 10:9 11:9,10 spins 29:15 30:9 Rome 1:11 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 Square 2:3 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 seeing 33:6 14:1,10,16,24 stage 7:7 8:6,7				1	
7:13 27:20 representative 14:15,23 19:21 24:22 28:3 23:6 represented 7:15 27:16 representing 30:9 represents 21:13 10:5 11:20 7:3 22:2 24:1 24:22 28:3 29:23 30:7 secret 7:22 25:14 26:2,22 29:4 secret 7:22 29:4 secret 7:22 29:4 secret 7:22 11:16 specifically 6:15 11:16 specificity 18:14 spins 29:15 Square 2:3 stage 7:7 8:6,7			9 m		
representative 14:15,23 19:21 24:22 28:3 29:23 30:7 23:6 23:6 risk 18:18 Robert 2:22 25:14 26:2,22 29:4 29:4 29:4 20:27:2 10:3,6 29:4 29:4 29:4 29:4 29:4 29:4 29:4 29:4				and the second s	
17:3,6 19:8 21:21 29:23 30:7 small 2:12 3:6,6 specific 27:14 23:6 risk 18:18 secret 7:22 5:18,18,21 specific 27:14 represented Robert 2:22 25:14 26:2,22 6:12,15,18,21 11:16 7:15 27:16 3:15 19:11 29:4 6:22 7:2 10:3,6 specifically 6:15 representing Rodney 2:3 see 10:17 18:7 10:9 11:9,10 spins 29:15 30:9 Rome 1:11 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 Square 2:3 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 seeing 33:6 14:1,10,16,24 stage 7:7 8:6,7	. 111 2		· ·		
23:6 represented 7:15 27:16 representing 30:9 represents 21:13 represents 21:13 represents 21:13 represented Robert 2:22 25:14 26:2,22 25:14 26:2,22 6:12,15,18,21 6:22 7:2 10:3,6 10:9 11:9,10 11:13 13:9,20 14:1,10,16,24 represents 21:23 represents 21:21 represents 21:21 represented Robert 2:22 25:14 26:2,22 6:12,15,18,21 6:22 7:2 10:3,6 10:9 11:9,10 11:13 13:9,20 14:1,10,16,24 represents 21:23 represents 21:23 represents 21:23					The Color of
represented Robert 2:22 25:14 26:2,22 6:12,15,18,21 11:16 7:15 27:16 3:15 19:11 29:4 6:22 7:2 10:3,6 specificity 18:14 representing Rodney 2:3 see 10:17 18:7 10:9 11:9,10 spins 29:15 30:9 Rome 1:11 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 Square 2:3 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 seeing 33:6 14:1,10,16,24 stage 7:7 8:6,7				9.3 9 1 9 7	
7:15 27:16 representing 30:9 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21	5 T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T			1 2 1 h 2 h 2 h 2 h 2 h 3 h	
representing 30:9 Rome 1:11 Romero 8:21,21 See 10:17 18:7 10:9 11:9,10 spins 29:15 Square 2:3 seeing 33:6 14:1,10,16,24 stage 7:7 8:6,7					
30:9 Rome 1:11 30:24 32:3 11:13 13:9,20 Square 2:3 represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 seeing 33:6 14:1,10,16,24 stage 7:7 8:6,7	j*	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		The second of the design of The Control of The Cont	
represents 21:13 Romero 8:21,21 seeing 33:6 14:1,10,16,24 stage 7:7 8:6,7					
The second secon	1				
15:1 16:6,8,12 9:7,14 12:8,12			· •••	A121.50	
	request 52/25	0.22 9.2,11	SOUR TELEVIZUES	15:1 16:6,8,12	9:7,14 12:8,12
the contract of the contract o					5

			·	Page
12:16,22 25:21	suggests 31:2	32:20	Thursday 33:20	ultimate 24:20
standard 26:6	Suite 2:13	Thank 3:5,8,11	time 8:10 15:6	30:3
26:17 27:12	supervision	3:14,17,21 4:4		understand 6:8
29:14 30:17	35:10	4:7,11 16:20	27:19 31:22	7:8,18 9:18
Stars 1:18	supplier 16:8,13		32:18 34:4	10:8 11:14
start 3:1 11:13	24:7,7,16,17	24:2 27:6	35:7	13:17,24 14:6
State 35:2,5	28:17,18,18	28:24 29:1,3	today 4:21 7:18	16:15,16 24:5
statement 10:2	30:10,10,11	29:20 34:8	19:16 29:13	25:11 26:4.11
16:24 24:13	suppliers 16:12	thereof 35:14	told 5:1 15:24	30:18,19
STATES 1:2	supports 30:24	thing 6:11 9:4	17:4 28:6	understanding
statistical 21:11	sure 5:8 6:8	9:10,11 15:23	TOLL 2:11	5:14:11:18
status 29:13	11:14 13:6	17:4 28:6	top 16:1 22:15	16:22
Stone 2:22 3:15	18:20 19:10	things 5:7 13:11	22:24 28:4,8,9	
3:15 9:9 10:13	24:4 33:10	15:1	tops 16:4,5	understood 9:21
19:11,11,13,14	surprised 29:5	think 4:15 5:16	22:14,15	30:9
19:22 20:7.10	suspected 21:22	6:21 8:7 9:4,13	,	unduly 25:18 26:16
20:24 22:1	Juspectour 21,22	9:21 12:5	15:24,24 16:8	
23:3,7,11	T	13:11 18:5,7	16:11 19:1	UNITED 1:2
26:21,24 27:3	T 35:1,1	18:11,13,17		universe 12:4
29:2,3,10	table 6:10 20:8	19:23 20:5	22:15-28:7,12 28:15	13:7 17:7,13
31:23,24 32:4	22:13	21:1,7,15,17		17:16,22,19:5
32:24 33:9,20	Tablet 23:8	22:9 23:8,14	total 13:21 21:14	use 8:14 16:16
33:22 34:6	tablets 22:24	25:20 29:15	22:20 23:9	
Street 1:11,22	take 11:24 20:14	30:12,20 31:5	Tower 2:13	v 1:6
2:6,9,16,19,22	21:9	31:15,18 33:10	trade 7:22 25:14	variables 19:2
strongly 25:15	taken 1:9 35:7	33:22 34:2	26:2,21 29:4	vendor 22:19
submission	talk 22:7 24:3	thinking 13:17	transaction	vendors 22:4,5,5
22:17	32:18	third 8:23 9:5	17:18	22:14
submitted 5:2	talking 6:9 12:3	12:14,19,20,21	transcribed 35:10	versus 8:22 9:1,9
21:18	12:15 21:22,23	12:21,23 13:14	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	view 8:23 9:10
subpoena 20:1,4	27:13		transcription	26:9 29:23,23
subpoenaed	teeing 26:2	30:18,20,21	35:11	viewed 29:11
13:21	teleconference	Thompson 2:15 3:10	translated 7:8	and the second s
subset 17:14	1:9 34:3,10		tried 29:17	VINCENT 1:14
substantial	35:6,8,11	thought 26:24	trim 19:3	virtue 23:4
22:15,18	tell 15:10 28:14	29:6	true 6:12 10:4	Volen 2:15 3:9,9
successful 13:1,2	telling 16:15,17	thoughts 6:24	10:11 35:12	volume 13:21
sufficient 5:23	18:12 23:1	three 15:17,22	truly 17:18 19:5	15:8 21:3,11
6:3 14:18 17:8	ten 7:15 14:7,8	16:10 18:16	try 6:2	21:12,15 22:20
17:8 19:1,4	14:12,19 16:1	19:20 21:13	Tuesday 1:11	28:7
21:4 22:11	16:5 17:11,24	22:5 23:2 24:6	TUNNELL 2:18	W
sufficiently 21:6	18:1 21:11	24:14,15 25:24	two 12:14 13:19	wait 4:14
suggest 17:5	28:8	27:14,17,24	19:19 20:11,19	want 6:5,8,13,24
25:15 26:3	term 25:14,16	28:14 30:4,9	21:3,5 22:19	11:7:14:5
23.13 20.3 suggesting 24:16	terms 4:19 21:15	threshold 14:16	type 15:3	19:14 20:3
suggestion 20:18	22:8,19 23:11	21:11	**************************************	24:23 30:6
		throws 25:14	<u> </u>	31:633:4
		Manager Property Commission	ļ	- 214,000

Page 8

1	12011:11-2:19	**************************************		
21:22				i
1	13 21:13		The stand	
wasmington		900172:23	i entidea ja	
	1310 2:9	90067 1:18		
1	1313 2:6	941042:16		·
1	15th 2:16		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	e. i
way 8:19 13:18	18th 31:4	į		n 1
1	1977 9:2		. In the second	' : .
	19801 2:10			Port of the State
week 4:22 33:19	19899 1:22 2:3,6			
West 2:13	2:19	e transfer englisher	t in the second of the second	
Wilcox 1:21,23	1999 1:18		egn for	
1:24	The state of the s		!	i
willing 13:4	2	タイル 草一。		y - 4.5
18:21 22:6	2 5:6 7:17		: ' .	1 1
	2nd 9:1		+ 1, + , , + , ,	1
1:11,22 2:3,6	2/3 14:9		i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	
2:10,19 4:2	2 :30 1:12			1
1 00.1091.7 1.2	20th 5:1		.!	
	2000 21:14	,	. 1	
[000	20005 2:13	. ,	r ti daga t	
1 4.1 AT ATO A TO THE	2007 1:11 5:12		'	
work 11:5 17:19	21:14:31:4		in Banda in the Control	
1 1	35:16		in the parties	e production
33:6,19	2008 35:20			
110% 5773 011	230 1:22		i i	
TARTER COLOURS OF THE PARTY	235 2:16		u file	e cara jaar e
1:23			1, 4,41	
V ST 187 - No maximum v	The latest the second of the s	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
yeah 10:9 12:16	3 5:5	in the second se		. 1
7 V4444 X V / / X M/ · X V	3:21 34:10	. 1		
1 7 V 24 A 1 3 C CAR CAC 1 X L - 2	30.17:12			l mar e e la
J 464 6 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	302 1:22	a a h	11 and 11	
	31 35:20	is takim sesa	eren Toppertigger	1271.4
York 2:12	J1 JJ.20			
0	4			i, a
	434.9:1			andi di
05-711-001 1.0	a thus Paties I we say the second	tar e jag ^e tt		
1	5	- 1 Ja		i i i jë i
	500 2:13	i ya ka		esan Hasi
	561 9:1			
	571-0510 1:22	* * * **		F
17.19.21.24		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
100 13:4	6		:	1000 1000 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 1
	6th 2:6	a marinari	* 4 .	3
100-KFK 33.20	works seen waren or a first to		7 E 64	
111:11	8			And the second
11th 35:15	865 2:22			ty electrical
1100 2:12				

CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

IN RE: INTEL CORP. MICROPROCESSSOR ANTITRUST LITIGATION))) MDL Docket No. 05-1717 (JJF)))
PHIL PAUL, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated,)))
Plaintiffs,))
v.) C.A. No. 05-485 (JJF)
INTEL CORPORATION,) CONSOLIDATED
Defendant.)))

LETTER TO SPECIAL MASTER VINCENT J. POPPITI FROM MARY B. GRAHAM

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Dated: May 9, 2007

Dear Judge Poppiti:

We ask that the Special Master accept this letter in response to the letters of Intel (May 4) and Class Plaintiffs (May 7) which raise new arguments that warrant response. Intel has agreed that we may have a response; Class Plaintiffs have not. We also ask for this opportunity to respond to the comments at the May 1 hearing relating to the Special Master's understanding of the history of the protective order and its consequences, which we have now had an opportunity to investigate.

1. The earlier process resulting in the general protective order.

Document 631-4

Intel and Class Plaintiffs imply that Fry's is the proverbial "fly in the ointment." They characterize the existing Protective Order as the product of a "massive and arguably unprecedented negotiation process where multiple third parties - including Fry's - were allowed to provide input on the Protective Order, which was ultimately approved by the Court." (Intel ltr. at 1.) They go on to emphasize that the Court "expended significant time and effort on the current protective order." (Id.) Because of all that work, according to Intel and Class Plaintiffs, Fry's should be content with the outcome of this process, as are other third parties, and not be heard to complain.

We respect the laudable and successful efforts by the Court to manage an obviously large case and develop a workable general protective order. But we take issue with the notion that somehow the parties' earlier negotiation efforts, however extensive, and the efforts then expended by the Court to turn the parties' product into a general protective order, somehow foreclose Fry's, as a third party, from now having its day in Court to seek certain additional protections sufficient to protect its specific trade secrets, protections that are warranted under the law and routinely accorded trade secrets of parties, as well as third parties.

Intel admits that the original Protective Order was the product of negotiation among the parties, and that the role of third parties was to give "input" after that negotiation had occurred. While that model from a practical standpoint makes sense as a way to lead to a general protective order, it cannot be argued that, as a practical matter, third party Fry's stands in the shoes of the parties to the case who negotiated the order. It is plainly harder to alter the product of a negotiation after the fact, than to affect the outcome as a full participant throughout.

Moreover, from a legal standpoint, while Fry's was, as Intel says, invited to give "input," it was not an actual party to any ripe dispute then before the Court. Indeed, prior to the May 1, 2007 hearing, there was no specific ruling that this Court had jurisdiction to hear disputes regarding documents-only subpoenas to Fry's or other third parties. Furthermore, although AMD and Intel had outstanding subpoenas to Fry's, their subpoenas were not identical to Class Plaintiffs' (as Fry's discussed at the May 1 hearing) and the extent to which those parties would pursue their subpoenas, and the scope of any ultimate production by Fry's, was unclear. Neither those parties nor Fry's had invoked the mechanisms of the Court in a way that would have made Fry's a party to a dispute over its specific documents, whether through a motion to quash, a motion for protective order or a motion to compel. Indeed, the parties cite no legal authority to support the notion that Fry's should be treated as though it were a party to the earlier proceedings.

Because Fry's was not a party, it was not formally served with papers filed in the case. For that reason alone, it cannot be held to be bound to the earlier proceedings. 1 Moreover, Fry's was not in fact aware of all events relating to protective order issues. This is significant because at the recent hearing the Special Master reviewed and relied on the history of paragraphs 6(b) and 11 relating to experts (May 1, 2007 tr. at 42-46, citing p. 81 of the Report). This history, seemingly suggesting that Fry's had supported the current protective order provisions relating to experts, led the Special Master to say that he was not "inclined to propose a change to the protective order." (Id. at 45-46). More particularly, as the Special Master recounted the history, a lawyer for certain third parties, Mr. Holston, argued at the hearing on June 12, 2006 that third parties had a right to learn the identities of the experts. Following his argument at the June 12 hearing, the parties stated that they were "willing to accommodate the third parties' concerns in the spirit of compromise." (Id. at 45). Thereafter, "by submission dated June 15th, 2006, the parties agreed to revise the language" to the form which the Special Master's Report found "acceptable" (Id. at 45; Report at 82). That provision provided that third parties would be informed of the identity of the experts, but did not include explicitly that the notice be in advance of disclosure with a right to object.

We have now spent considerable effort to investigate. Fry's did not attend the June 12, 2006 hearing, and Mr. Holston, who spoke on behalf of only nine of the third parties, was not retained to represent Fry's interests. Although his client Hewlett Packard had objected prior to the hearing "to granting an expert access to Confidential Discovery Material without first identifying the proposed expert to the Producing Party and affording Third Parties an opportunity to object to [that] access" (6/27/06 Report at 38-39), Mr. Holston did not argue for that position at the hearing (6/12/06 tr. at 87-90). Fry's did not receive a transcript of the hearing until last week, and it was not made aware at the time of the hearing of any negotiation over the expert (or any other) provisions. Further, Fry's did not play any part in the June 15 submission and, moreover, believes that it was not aware of it at the time. Thus, Fry's cannot be viewed as bound by the particular "accommodation" on the experts provision of the parties' submission. Nor can Fry's be viewed as having participated in any negotiations leading to the Court's finding acceptable any other provisions, including the one relating to access by in-house counsel.

Class Plaintiffs argue that the e-discovery order is a red herring. That Order in fact "interfaces" with the general Protective Order as the parties themselves have admitted (D.I. 132 at 2, C.A. No. 05-1717), and shows that even the parties who negotiated away the right to exclude in-house counsel otherwise, retained that right under certain circumstances for certain electronic information, presumably in recognition of the ease with which such information can inadvertently be disclosed.

Counsel for Fry's has been unable to locate in any of the court's dockets a submission by the parties on the expert provisions following the hearing, including on June 15, 2006, and so we cannot comment on the contents of that submission beyond the above. However, Fry's inhouse counsel has no recollection of being aware of any compromise being considered in advance of the hearing or of one being negotiated following the hearing and has not found any indication in his emails that he was consulted. If any third parties signed off on this "accommodation," presumably it was the nine clients of Mr. Holston or possibly other third parties who attended the hearing. We also note that Fry's could not as a practical matter participate in the hearing, as it would have required travel to Delaware which was not practical under the circumstances (and it had had no reason to retain Delaware counsel).

Notably, neither Intel nor Class Plaintiffs cite any authority for the remarkable proposition that Fry's, having been invited to give "input" before an actual specific dispute relating to Fry's information was framed, should be foreclosed from later seeking protections when an actual dispute has developed. The "law of the case" doctrine cited by Class Plaintiffs has no relevance to the present dispute, because among other reasons, it does not apply to interlocutory orders. Hudson United Bank v. Progressive Cas. Ins. Co., 284 F. Supp. 2d 249, 252 n. 4 (E.D. Pa. 2003) ("The law of the case doctrine does not limit the power of a trial judge to revisit issues addressed in interlocutory orders."); see also Martin v. Port Auth. Transit, 115 Fed. Appx. 556, 560 (3d Cir. Oct. 21, 2004) (unpublished) ("Interlocutory orders remain open to reconsideration and do not constitute the law of the case.").³ Indeed, the Protective Order itself recognizes in paragraph 28 that it was entered "without prejudice to the right of . . . any Third Party, for good cause shown, to move for modification of this Protective Order" (emphasis added)

The authority cited in Fry's May 2 letter makes clear that the Court always has the discretion to modify a protective order to provide for additional protections. Now that there is an actual dispute and a motion to compel has been filed that involves specific information of Fry's, Fry's has come forward with declarations that, until Class Plaintiffs' May 7 letter, were unchallenged. Those declarations establish that Fry's specific, subpoenaed information involves trade secrets that warrant full protection by the provisions that Fry's seeks.

2. Intel's "parade of horribles."

Intel raises the specter of a "parade of horribles," that if the Special Master were to entertain Fry's request and grant the protective measures Fry's seeks for its trade secrets, then 70 other third parties might also seek modifications to the protective order and create havoc. Whether or not others might seek additional protections is not a justification for shutting the doors of the courthouse to Fry's. Intel cites no authority for the proposition that a nonparty should be denied consideration by the Court simply because others might also seek the protection of the Court.

Moreover, Fry's positions, i.e. that an "outside-counsels'-eyes-only" tier and a provision for notification and objection with respect to experts is warranted for financial and sales information such as Fry's constituting actual trade secrets, were not argued at the hearing, and apparently others do not have the same need as Fry's to ensure, for example, that in-house counsel for AMD and Intel do not have access to their information. As the Report and Recommendation explains, the parties and third parties in attendance at the hearing were content with a negotiated provision that allowed AMD's and Intel's in-house counsel to see those third parties' information, as long as counsel were not involved in certain kind of activities for a period of time (although that period of time was in dispute). (See Report at 86-87; 6/12/07 tr. at 136-137.) Similarly, as noted above, those at the hearing apparently worked out a compromise provision relating to experts during or after the hearing that did not include an explicit right on

The case Class Plaintiffs cite, Max's Seafood Cafe, does not even address the law of the case doctrine.

the part of the third parties to have advance notice and to object.⁴ The Report and Recommendation found these negotiated provisions "acceptable." (Report at 82, 87.) However, the Report did not discuss or make findings as to whether the further, standard additional protections that Fry's is requesting were warranted to protect its trade secrets. Thus, Class Plaintiffs' assertion that "Fry's arguments were fully considered prior to entry of the protective order" (p. 4) is simply not correct.

Finally, the concern over potential havoc is vastly overblown. Apparently, as Intel notes, other third parties do not have concerns like Fry's, perhaps because they were involved in the negotiations and so negotiated their own interests as they saw fit, because they do not have trade secrets that may be produced, or because no ripe dispute has yet been framed over their information. But whatever the reason, if a third party were now to come forward to protect any trade secrets, the provisions that Fry's seeks – which are routinely granted in litigation in this district – could readily be employed for the benefit of others, and so the Court would be able efficiently to deal with those applications. The Court can take further comfort in knowing that, given the considerable cost of having to fight a battle in this case over the protective order, no third party is going to undertake the effort unless it has a genuine concern not met by the general Protective Order.

3. Interference with Intel's litigation needs.

Class Plaintiffs make no specific arguments that the provisions Fry's seeks are unworkable, burdensome, or otherwise problematic. Intel argues, however, that it should not have to identify its experts, with an opportunity for Fry's to object before those experts see Fry's trade secrets, because such a requirement would effectively empower Fry's to have a "veto" over Intel's choice of experts. This argument ignores that this provision is not a veto, but a right of objection subject to court review. This is a standard provision in protective orders which recognizes that companies should have the right to ensure that experts who might be in a position, even inadvertently, to misuse or disclose information, do not receive trade secret information. The cases in Delaware are legion in which such provisions, including with a right by third parties to object, appear in protective orders. (See, e.g., Exh. A at 1, 12-13 and Exh. A to Fry's 5/2/07 ltr. at 11.) The one case Intel cites, Telular, is inapposite; it did not hold that an objection provision is improper. In fact, it shows that, where there is an objection to an expert, the Court can address the issue applying the appropriate legal standards.

Intel also argues that its in-house counsel should have access to Fry's trade secret information, but does not identify any specific reason why its in-house counsel needs access. Instead, Intel focuses on the risk of injury portion of the good cause inquiry, and argues that its in-house counsel are officers of the court who can be expected to comply with protective orders. But it is hard to conceive of a reason why in-house counsel would need to see Fry's actual data, which from Class Plaintiffs' submission will apparently be analyzed by experts. Moreover, by Intel's logic, no protective Order need ever be adopted that excludes in-house counsel. Yet many protective orders in this district have been entered that exclude in-house counsel because,

At the hearing, no one pressed the point, for example, that numerous protective orders have been entered in this district, some with court rulings directly on these issues, which show that the provisions that Fry's seeks are fully justified, workable and customary.

regardless of good intentions, a risk of disclosure for in-house personnel exists that is greater than the risk for outside counsel, as Judge Jordan recognized in the TriCor antitrust litigation. In fact, Judge Farnan has held, in denying access by in-house counsel to highly confidential information, that: "In this district, highly confidential [information], assuming the information is properly designated, we assume it's competitive unless there is some cause shown that it's not, is limited to outside counsel, experts and consultants." (Exh. B, tr. at 5 and signed order.)

In a related vein, Intel questions Fry's request that the number of outside counsel who see Fry's information be limited. Again, Intel recites that outside counsel are officers of the court who should be expected to adhere to their obligations. But the sheer number of outside counsel in this case is "unprecedented," and, accordingly, restrictions taking into account that circumstance are appropriate. It cannot reasonably be denied that the risks of disclosure are proportional to the number of persons with access, and that the current protective order provides Fry's with no ability to monitor for breaches of the protective order or even to be informed of such breaches, a provision that is often found in protective orders entered in Delaware (See, e.g., TriCor Protective Order at 18, Exh. A to Fry's 5/2/07 ltr.) Notably, the parties themselves have already acknowledged that limiting the number of outside counsel is important for certain information - the parties' e-discovery order limits the number of outside counsel who may see their native document databases. (D.I. 396 at 11.) If the parties' information warrants such measures, certainly Fry's trade secrets warrant at least as great a degree of protection. See U.S. v. Dentsply Int'l, Inc., 187 F.R.D. 152, 160 (D. Del. 1999).

4. The status of Fry's trade secrets.

Although Class Plaintiffs did not dispute the trade secret status of Fry's information in their earlier reply in support of their motion to compel, they make the new argument that Fry's data "is not confidential, not known only to Fry's" and that Fry's declarations fail to demonstrate that it has a trade secret interest in its actual data (ltr. at 3.) This argument is erroneous and should be rejected as too late. Fry's submitted its declarations in its April 17 response to the motion to compel, and if Class Plaintiffs had wanted to argue that the declarations were insufficient, it should have done so in its reply and before the hearing, so that Fry's could have responded then, and if appropriate, adduce evidence at the hearing.

Their argument also ignores well established trade secret law. The fact that information consists of an aggregation of many pieces of information, each of which individually might be public, does not negate trade secret status if the aggregation is not readily ascertainable. The Federal Circuit, for example, has noted that, "Ninth Circuit law upholds trade secret status even had the same information been obtainable from other sources" and that "trade secrecy is not negated because defendant by an expenditure of effort might have collected the same information from sources available to the public." Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 1243-44 (Fed. Cir. 1989) (citing Clark v. Bunker, 453 F.2d 1006, 1010 (9th Cir. 1972)). See also, Franklin Fibre-Lamitex Corp. v. Marvec Mfg., Inc., No. 12782, 1997 WL 153825 (Del. Ch. Mar. 26, 1997) (observing that, because "it took years for plaintiff to acquire this information [relating to customer purchasing needs and the prices customers paid]," it could reasonably be inferred that the information "could not easily be obtained by random 'cold calling."") Class Plaintiffs do not say how all the individual sales data could be transformed in any readily ascertainable way into the aggregation in Fry's possession.

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Moreover, Class Plaintiffs put in no record support for the notion that all of the individual pieces of underlying data that Fry's has are public. Their mere attorney argument cannot counter the actual evidence that Fry's put in the record. The declaration of Rajesh Seth avers that Fry's information about "pricing, profit margins, inventories, marketing development funds" is not publicly known (and its disclosure to Fry's competitors or to manufacturers would cause Fry's serious harm, for example, from loss of bargaining power). He also avers that "Fry's methodologies regarding pricing, inventories, marketing, profitability" are not public and that the disclosure of this information would allow its competitors more effectively to compete against Fry's. The trade secret status of this information cannot seriously be contested. This is precisely the sort of information that Judge Farnan in Igen (Exhibit B) and Judge Jordan in the TriCor antitrust litigation, have held is not required to be shown to in-house counsel.

Respectfully,

Many Graham Mary B. Graham (#2256)

MBG/dam

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Case 1:05-md-01717-JJF Document 631-4 Filed 10/25/2007 Page 70 of 81

Parkin's Lot: Sample size and statistical significance

Page 1 of 2

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Data Analysis Procedures Multi dimensional analysis of data. Zero user training. View demo/paper	Statistical Leading Statistical Software Makes Stat Analysis Easy. Free Demol
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Thursday, December 04, 2003

Sample size and statistical significance

How many people do you need to survey to get a significant result?

For statistical significance (in statistics, "significant" has a very specific meaning), you need to use a valid sample size. You also need to use a valid methodology for selecting who goes into your sample.

As a rough rule of thumb, your sample should be about 10% of your universe, but not smaller than 30 and not greater than 350. If you are doing multivariate analysis, the sample should be ten times the number of variables you are testing.

If you want to be more pedantic, you should define what confidence level you want and what margin of error is acceptable to you. A confidence level of 95% and an error margin of 5% tell you that your result will be within 5% of the true answer 95% of the time you run the survey. So if you tested 100 samples, 95 of them would return a result that was within 5% of the truth.

The correct sample size is a function of those three elements—your universe (how many people make up the group whose behavior you are trying to represent), your desired error margin, and your preferred confidence level. It's a simple

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formula (well, not so simple). For most purposes, I'd go for a 10% error margin at 95% confidence. For varying numbers of learners in your universe here are the ideal sample sizes (the first at a 10% error margin, the second at 5%):



50 in the universe, sample 33 or 44 100 in the universe, sample 49 or 80 200 in the universe, sample 65 or 132 500 in the universe, sample 81 or 217 1000 in the universe, sample 88 or 278 and so it goes till you find that an ideal sample for a 10% error margin hardly moves above 350 no matter how big the universe (it's 500 for 5%).

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